

THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER 1995

IN SECTION TWO

MESSAGE TO THE MESSAG

STARTING THIS SUNDAY HAYA EOTIS ELSE Details in the Independent



Portillo hit by Brussels broadside

Speech 'grotesque' says Santer

DONALD MACINTYRE and COLIN BROWN

The European Commission yesterday launched a strong and unprecedented counter-attack on Michael Portillo the Secretary of State for Defence, following his nationalistic diatribe against Brussels on Tuesday.

Echoing dismay among some ministers, pro-Europeans and even some Euro-sceptics in the Conservative Party, the President of the European Com-mission, Jacques Santer, was officially said in Brussels to have regarded the barrage of anti-European sentiment expressed in Blackpool as "deplorable" and "grotesque."

Some ministers privately described as "naked" and "crude" Mr Portillo's speech to the Blackpool conference – cleared by the Prime Minister - in which he promised to resist a "single European army" and aligned British Conservatism with the SAS motto: "Who dares, wins". One senior minister is understood to have protested to Mr Major about the terms with which Mr Portillo mocked the European Commission.

A spokesman for Mr Santer did not name Mr Portillo but said the Commission President found it "deplorable" that politicians were creating straw men tu knock them down publicly. "Mr Santer thinks it is grotesque to have recourse to this kind of behaviour for rea-

sons of maintaining a high pro-file in politics and the media," a Commission spokesman, Joao Vale de Almeida, said. Commission officials pointed out there is little chance a pan-European army will result from deliberations on closer Euro-

pean defence co-operation. Conservative Members of the European Parliament were appalled at the impact the speech would have on Britain's relations with the EU. One minister suggested that it was "just not done" to involve British armed forces in a party political speech, "The SAS will just hate it," he said.

Lord Howe, the former foreign secretary, said: "I think it is very disturbing to find someone, holding the position he does, exploiting so faultlessly the easy anti-European applause line, casting Brussels as an ogre."

Inside

The lobbyist who starred in yesterday's detence debate

Aridrew Mart

The unrest caused by Mr Portillo's speech threatened to undermine efforts by Mr Major and Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, to reunite the party by striking a more Eurosceptic note in declarations on a single currency.

Lord Plumb, leader of the Conservatives in the European Parliament, said: "I would not expect a minister of the Crown to be saying some of the things he said in respect of Brussels or in respect of Europe."

Pro-Europeans were disturbed to discover that Mr Major had approved Mr Portillo's

Earlier Michael Heseltine denied suggestions that he rebuked Mr Portillo in his own platform speech yesterday. Mr Heseltine said: "You can call yourself a Communist, a Socialist, a Liberal or a Conservative. You can wrap yourself in any flag of any colour and you can mouth whatever patriotic rhetoric the PR merchants can devise ... But unless you hammer home the message that our companies must give the customers what they want at a qua invities need at a price they are trepared to pay, then politicians are guilty of a great deceit, a giant fraud, the ultimate betray-

The Deputy Prime Minister later said that the reference to people wrapping themselves in the national flag was related to the "phoney sentiments of



Footballer jailed for foul play

RICHARD BRENNAN

Duncan Ferguson, the contro-versial Scotland international footballer, yesterday began a three-month jail sentence after losing his appeal against sentence for butting a rival player.

He is the first British international player to be jailed for assaulting a fellow professional on the field of play. The 23-year-old, who now plays in England for Everton.

was told that incidents of violence in sport could not be ignored by the courts. He also has two previous convictions for assault, one for breach of the peace and one for drink-driving. Ferguson was appearing before the Supreme Court in

Edinburgh to appeal against the sentence, but not the conviction, that had been imposed by a sheriff earlier this year. Despite pleas from Everton, and his former employer, Rangers, Lord Hope, the Lord

Justice General of Scotland, said

the original three-month term could not be ruled "excessive" Sitting with two other judges he called it a "tragic case", but added: "We have reached the view that we would not be justified in interfering with this



Ferguson was on probation at the time of the incident in a Scottish Premiership match at Ibrox Park, the home of Glasgow Rangers, in April last year. He butted opposing full-back John McStay of Raith Rovers. leaving him with a cut lip.

nor cautioned for the assault by the match referee. However, the Scottish Football Association took action after viewing a video recording of the assault.
John Mitchell, QC, for the

and now "bitterly regretted the Ferguson's first brush with

Outside the court Ferguson's solicitor, Blair Morgan, said: There is no further appeal. I spoke to Duncan afterwards. He did not say very much. He had expected the worst and I think that was good preparation."

As Ferguson was taken away by prison van to Glasgow's Barlinnie jail, his club said be was the victim of a "witch-hunt". Everton manager Joe Royle attacked the decision as "incredible", adding: "We are all amazed and stunned and can't really believe, in a society that seems dedicated to keeping people out of prison, that we are putting away a young man who is in a good job and is no dan-

ger to society." Everton would give him its "fullest support" and Ferguson would remain a hero to the Merseyside club, the manager said. "Anyone who knows him will tell you be is a very pleasant young man. He is oo bad lad at all. He has been guilty sometimes of stupidity, but mostly immaturity. We all see events on football pitches every week and they are a lot worse than what Duncan now finds himself imprisoned with hardened crimi-

first concern was to make sure

that our viewers did not miss

out," Marcus Platin, head of

schedule to make a real 'event'

out of the first story in the same

"I have now rearranged the

Page 21

Network Centre, said.

the law came in February 1991 when he was fined for butting a police officer. A second assault followed two years later when the player was involved in an incident in Edinburgh, striking a man who was on crutches. That also resulted in a fine but

It was in April of this year that Ferguson was convicted for the latest incident. Sentence was then adjourned to allow reports to be compiled before he was given a three-month jail

less than a year later he was

again before the sheriff on an

assault charge.

Grobbelaar in court, page 3

Bosnia truce is finally sealed

EMMA DALY Sarajevo

The delay, caused by arguments over the restoration of gas and electricity supplies to Sarajevo, allowed - coincidentally or not - Bosnian government forces to seize two important towns from the rebel

Antonio Pedauye, the UN chief in Bosnia, said last night that all sides had agreed to a 60day ceasefire, which will allow further negotiations on the outline peace settlement brokered by the US special envoy, Richard Holbrooke.

But though the guns may cease firing, the suffering of civilians - Serb and Muslim will continue. Some 40,000 Serb refugees were moving east last night towards the Serb stronghold of Banja Luka from the newly fallen towns of Sanski Most and Mrkonjic Grad. At the same time, thousands of the the remaining Muslim residents of Serb-held northern Bosnia had been forcibly expelled across the front lines by Serb paramilitaries.

"Their police were throwing us out of our flats while Serb newcomers were waiting in front of them to occupy them as soon as we left," Mensur Budimlic, a Muslim from Prijedor, north of Sanski Most, said after arriving in the governmentheld city of Zenica.

Bosnian officials had delayed the truce twice, first because ga supplies had not yet reached Sarajevo, then because electricity levels were deemed too low. The ceasefire was dependent on the full restoration of utilities to the city.

The UN now has the unenviable task of implementing the truce, which is to last for two months or until there is a conclusion to the peace talks. UN officials speak only of "monitoring and facilitating" the ceasefire, rather than enforcing it. Peace-keepers will also escort civilian convoys to and from the besieged eastern enclave of

Howard's anti-theft drive

DONALD MACINTYRE and NICHOLAS TIMMINS

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, will today announce a new sentencing drive against persistent burglars as part of a law-and-order package he will unveil in the wake of a series of populist policy initiatives on education, health, social security and housing.

Peter Lilley won loud ap-plause yesterday when he announced cuts in social security benefits for asylum seekers, aimed at saving £200m and reducing the growing numbers of would be immigrants applying for asylum in the United Kingdom.

Mr Howard's new regime would mean more burglars with multiple convictions being tried in Crown Courts which can impose a maximum sentence of 14 years. He recently told the Police Superintendents' Association he had been surprised by research suggesting that magis-trates sent only 10 per cent of burglars to prison on a first conviction and for those with 10 or more convictions the average

sentence was only four months. Mr Howard may also foreshadow the greater use of video surveillance in public places to deter and detect crime. Mr Lilley's announcement

came after a barnstorming raising school standards.

speech by Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister, which was the highlight of the conference's second day. He excoriat ed the "nauscating hypocrisy" of Labour's education policy, projected the Tories as the party to modernise Britain and transform its inner cities, and overshadowed a rare defeat for the par-

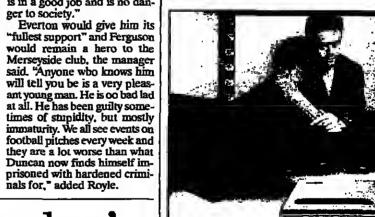
ty leadership on council capping. Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, won the second ngest evation of the day with a speech in which she announced a campaign to improve the use of English and a new qualification for beadteachers aimed at



The Crunch: Ferguson butting John McStay last year

Ferguson was neither sent off

defence, said his client realised his actions had been wrong



AFTER A CENTURY OF MOVIES. NOW IS THE TIME TO DISCOVER could go out unchanged. "When problems arose over CINEMA-SOUND AT HOME the scheduling of Cracker, my

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admits defeat in the battle over 'Cracker'



Universities lead the way

Students receive a much higher standard of teaching in traditional

universities than they do in the for-

mer polytechnics, according to a

report leaked to the Independent.

Eight out of ten departments grad-

ed "excellent" were in old universi-

ties, while only two out of ten were

in former polytechnics.

ONE

Page 7

Big Ben will chime on time next Monday, as ITV yesterday admitted defeat in the battle to reschedule its flagship News at

Following criticism from the Independent Television Commission, first reported in the Independent on Monday, the extended opening episode of the hit series Cracker will now be

IN BRIEF

Stockpile of death

Iraq is certain to face in-

definite United Nations

sanctions after a devastat-

ing report yesterday re-

vealed that it may still be

holding enough biological

weapons to wipe out the

world's population several

Norweb became the latest regional

electricity firm to succomb to a

North West buys Norweb

Page 17

broadcast on 22 October, a Sunday, and News at Ten will run as usual next week.

A repeat of the "cliff-hanger" episode from the last run of Cracker will be broadcast next Monday.

Witness breaks down

Caroline Owens, the victim of

a sex attack by Rosemary and

Frederick West, broke down in

the witness box at Winchester

Crown Court yesterday, saying

that she blamed herself for the

deaths of nine people at the

Tenors' bank notes

The three tenors - Pavarot-

ti, Domingo and Carreras

- have announced a con-

cert at Wembley Stadium

with ticket costing up to £350. Page 9

Page 3

Wests' home in Gloucester

bulletin's time slot.

ITV insiders admitted that the decision was an "embar-rassing" climbdown, but insisted there had been no attempt to set a precedent regarding the were incensed that no prior approval for the change had

"This had nothing to do with the scheduling of the news," ITV said.

The ITC had sbarply criticised the rescheduling, saying it breached ITV licence terms under which 30 minutes of weekday news must be broadcast during the peak viewing times of 6pm to 10:30pm. in addition, ITC officials

IT CURED THE

VIDLENCE ON THE

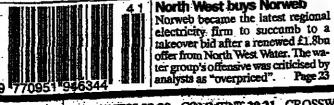
been sought. Everybody thought everybody else had told the ITC," an ITV insider ITV Network Centre con-

sidered a 15-minute cut in the opening episode, which includes a graphic rape scene, to accommodate the news. In the end, a shift to a Sunday premiere, followed by bour-long episodes on 23 October and 30

way that we sometimes sched-ule one of our other key dramas, October, meant the programme Prime Suspect." COMMENT John Walsh's Diary: Taking a visit to Mick Jagger's Ladies' Room. Page 19 Hamish McRae: Are banks going the same way as British manufacturing industry?

Another View: A poet's warning on National Page 20 Poetry Day. News Analysis: So just what makes a good headteacher?

Leading article: "Those giving out information on fertility treatment have a great responsibility to get their facts and figures right." Weather: Northern England will be cloudy with rain and drizzle. Elsewhere it will start misty but become brighter and



ter group's offensive was criticised by analysts as "overpriced". Page 23 BUSINESS 23-28 COMMENT 20,21 CROSSWORD 32 GAZETTE 22 LAW REPORT 22 LEADING ARTICLES 20 LETTERS 20 NEWS 2-18 OBITUARIES 22 SHARES 27 SPORT 29-32 UNIT TRUSTS 28



ARTS 7-11 CHESS 30 CROSSWORD 30 DILEMMAS 6 EDUCATION 12-23 FILM 8-11 GRADUATE PLUS 23-27 LIFE 6 LISTINGS 28,29 REVIEWS 8.9 TV & RADIO 31,32 WEATHER 29

Arms cuts opponent is military lobbyist



military spending, is a lobbyist for a company hidding for defence orders totalling almost Mark François was intro-

A speaker in Tuesday's defence

debate at the Conservative con-

ference, who made an impas-

sioned plea for no cuts in

duced as the prospective parliamentary candidate for Brent East, Ken Livingstone's seat. He is a director of Market Access International, a Westminsterbased consultancy which acts for numerous defence contractors. One of Market Access's

biggest clients is Northern Telecom, the giant Canadian telecommunications company, which is pitching for two MoD orders: the £2bn Defence Fixed Telecommunications System, known as DFTS, and the £1.8bn Bowman army field radio net-

Market Access bas strong Tory connections. David Boddy, its chairman, is a former director of communications at Tory Central Office. Steve Bramall, a former private secretary

Conservative speaker who argued against reducing defence spending has links with industry. Chris Blackhurst reports

Amess, the Tory MP for Basildon who is Mr Portillo's Parliamentary Private Secretary. Executives from Northern Telecom, who had travelled to

Blackpool to lobby for the orders, said they hoped to be on the two-strong shortlist for DFTS, to be announced shortly. DFTS is a telecommunications system serving all the armed forces and the Ministry of Defence. The current contract is held by British Telecom. Bowman is intended to be the replacement for Clansman, the army's long-standing front-line

The Bowman contract will involve supplying least 60,000 radio handsets and battery packs. In his speech, Mr François began by reminding the audience of the sacrifice made by the

to Michael Portillo when he was
Transport Secretary, is a director of the firm and Mr François
is a close friend of David

British Army in Burma. With Mr Prançois will understand, perhaps my most moving experience is always a of State for Defence was when danger when governments are under financial pressure they are tempted to find savings Northern Telecom yesterday from the defence budget. It is always a temptation they should

> Twice this century, declared Mr François, Britain had allowed its military machine to run down, to the point that when war was declared it was not able to offer an immediate riposte. We must make sure, he said, "we never, ever, ever, make that mistake again." He sat down to thunderous ap-

Replying to the debate, Mr Portillo singled out the contri-bution by Mr François, saying he would have understood how Mr Portillo would have felt Day celebrations. "As Mark I attended the march-past of veterans who fought against

hosted a packed fringe meeting on the information superhighway, chaired by Danny Finkelstein, head of research at Tory Central Office. With executives from Northern Telecom and Market Access in attendance, Ian Taylor, the Telecommunications Minister, congratplated the company for investing in Britain and creating jobs. They are "really welcome", Mr Taylor said.

Northern Telecom is one of four bidders for the DFTS contract, along with British Tele-com, Racal and GEC-Plessey. Martin Roberts, the company's project director, said he boped to be present when the

shortlist is announced, possibly as soon as Friday. The winner of the £2bn order is expected to

Mr Roberts said Market Access was working on the order because, "the next stage is political and down to the Cabinet". Asked if Northern Telecom would be meeting Mr Portillo while in Blackpool, Mr Roberts replied: "I would not be up here otherwise, would I? We hope to talk to him."

DFTS, said Mr Roberts, is "worth £2bn. It is a major con-tract that will run for 10 years". He added: "We have put a very good bid on the table." He confirmed that Mr François was working for Market Access. Mr Amess said he knew Mr Prancois "extremely well." The

two had met in Basildon, where Mr François was a councillor. Last night Mr Portillo told the Independent that he did not

Killer on

prison

van is

hijacked

A convicted murderer was on

the run in Newcastle upon Tyne

last night after gunmen held up

a prison van taking him to hos-

pital. Two other men, described

by police as "dangerous" were

being hunted after they walked

away from a prisoo in North

The Home Office was at

pains yesterday to try to min-

mise the embarrassment to

the Home Secretary of two

prison escapes in a day. Michael

Howard takes key position on

the platform today at the Con-

servative Party conference in

Blackpool as delegates debate

In the first escape, Alan yane, the state of the two asked in the factor the

Byrne was being transported

from Frankland Prison, Coun-

ty Durham, where he was serv-

ing a life sentence for murder

A category A immate, sen-

Crown Court, he was being

taken for treatment at a cancer

centre in Newcastle General

Hospital yesterday when the

armed men struck. Shots were

fired in the air but no one was

hart. Byrne and the two gunmen

ran off to a waiting vehicle in

A spokesman for Northum-

hria Police said yesterday: "This

was clearly well-planned by the

Little detail had emerged by

last night on the Humberside

jailbreak, which a Home Office

spokesman refused to call an es-

cape. "This is an abscond. To es-

Both men are dressed in reg-

the hospital car park.

spokesman said.

addresses last night.

and possession of a firearm.

Humberside.

law and order.

know Mr François. "I don't know him at all. I am sorry, I cannot help you. Thank you". The *Independent* was unable to contact Mr François.

be declared next April.

ous professional misconduct. The General Medical Council's professional committee had been told that Alan Mathams 42; and Gepffrey Shackle, 56, had hailed to act on the obvious tell-tale signs that Kathy Sctford, aged 38, had suffered a breach in the memfered a breach in the mem-branes around the focus. It was claimed the decision not to arrange for his productions in to hospital engage of the safety and their of a septiminary Her daughter. Landes of the Sci-ford was finally admitted. The GPs, both from East Sus-ses, had decised demical serious

misconduct case Two doctors accused of endangering the lives of a pregnant woman and her unborn child

were yesterday cleared of seri-

sex, had denied denied serious professional miscocited and claimed they waits guile unit of an isolated error of clinical

Toddlers die in fire

A mother and her two young daughters died when they were trapped in their blazing home. Firefighters later found the bodies of Diane Jones, 22, and her daughters Shona, aged two, and one-year-old Sarah Jane, in a bedroom at their home on the the Gurnos estate in Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan. run after

Price of slander

Albert Miller, general secretary of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain, was awarded £40 damages for slander by a High Court jury over an allegation that he had defrauded members of up to £90,000. Mr Miller, from Heston, west London don, had sued Terry Osborne, an amusement rides operator, over a comment he made in front of one of the guild's solicitors in August last year.

House firebombed

Firehombers have destroyed the home of a man who planned to set up a neighbourhood watch oo a Luton estate which vas the scene of rioting earlier this summer. Rod Stewart, 41, had moved his family out of the terraced house oo the Marsh Farm estate before the attack after receiving warning threats from local teenagers.

Police cell death

A police inquiry has been launched into the death of Christopher Baldwin, 30, from Bingham in Nottinghamshire, who was found hanging in a police cell an hour after being arrested for an alleged burglary in Str Ann's; Northingbans.

Hunt for bomber

Irish police are searching for a lone bomber thought to have planted four devices in Dublin was discovered in the baby goods section of a department store. None of the attacks is believed to have had paramilitary or terrorist involvement.

Tramp attacked

A tramp died from "horrific" head injuries after he was stamped on in a shopping centre in Leicester. Police said there was no motive for the "the savage attack" on the homeless man, who was in his 50s and who was found with several frac-

cape you would have to scale a THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD physical barrier," Sch40 N7ands R5.00 Police warned members of BelgumBFr80 Italy L4,500 the public not to approach the CananesPts300 Madeira ... Esc325 pair, who are in their early 20s. Cyprus G£1.20 Malta 43 cents They escaped from Everthorpe, near Hull, while they were Denmark Dio13 Norway Nir20 Insh Rep45p. Portugal ... Esc325 working on a prison farm. France Fr14 Spain Pts300

tures to his skull.

ulation blue and white striped Greece Dr450 Switzerland . Str4,00 prison shirts and jeans. One Linembourg \$3.00 man is from West Yorkshire and the other is from Cleveland. Po-OVERSEAS SUBSCRIPTIONS lice were checking their home Ar mail, 13 weeks: Europe £110.76; Zone 1 (Md die East, America, Africa und India) £184.08; Zobe A Humberside Police 2 (For East and Australianis) £208.70. To order, please spokesman said: "There is no

suggestion that either of these the Services Ltd to 43 Metharbour London E14 9TR men have used firearms, but one or talephone 0171-538 8268. Credit cards watcom has come to notice for using vi-BACK ISSUES olence. If a member of the public approached them, they

send chattue payable to Johrnorn International Me

Germany ... DM4.5 Sweden. ... Str20

Police want to caution drug dealers

JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

More novice drug dealers will be cautioned rather than prosecuted under radical proposals being considered by the police, it was revealed yesterday.

The scheme, which would require legislation, would allow the police to give out more cautions to drug users on the coodition they obtain medical help or counselling. The proposal, which was supported in principle by chief constables yesterday, is aimed at diverting young drug-takers and dealers away from the courts.

Also included in a package of measures recommended at the Association of Chief Police Officers autumn conference in Coventry were plans for greater police involvement in drug education in schools.

Children as young as four need to learn of the dangers of drugs, the conference heard. Chief constables were told that police needed to draw up na-tional guidelines because in some schools there was evidence that children had been encouraged, rather than discouraged, to take illegal substances after being told about them by the police and drug

The police also intend to encourage teachers, parents, college and university heads to report drug trends to them.

The recommendations were the result of a 12 month inquiry by the ACPO drugs sub-committee. Keith Hellawell, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire and the committee's chairman, said: "We need to find ways of diverting first time offenders, particularly children from the

He said yesterday that one way of achieving that aim, while attempting to wear young people away from drugs, was to have new cautioning powers. These would force anyone who was cautioned to obtain expert advice or go to a treatment centre. Failure to do so could result in court action or the offender being charge.

Mr Hellawell insisted this was not a "soft" policy or a form of drugs decriminalisation as the caution would still be recorded on the offender's police record. He argued that cautioning was already rising and this measure would be more effective.



Back at Westminster, a pact is sealed

MARY BRAID

At high noon, three days after they admitted a clandestine courtship and declared their mutual regard to the world, politics' happiest couple emerged into the sunshine yesterday to face the press.

Big Ben had just done chiming when renegade Conservative Alan Howarth MP - treacherous toerag or courageous, conscientious politician, depending on your point of view - and Tony

split-face grin but Mr Howarth. MP for Stratford-upon-Avon, almost managed. Seldom in the history of unlikely unions have a pair seemed quite so delighted with each other.

Former Tory minister Mr Howarth, sporting a red tie with the faintest of blue patterns, said he had no regrets about his decision to defect

Blair, the Labour leader, made their first joint appearance outside Westminster.

from the Tory party. This week's about Asian minorities. Then gathering of the faithful in Blackpool had merely vindidulging in an extraordinary It is hard to match Mr Blair's cated his action. He even suggested former colleagues might soon follow. He had just been talking to one Tory MP who had heen "deeply sbocked" by events and talk at Blackpool.

"Yesterday's proceedings confirmed my worst fears," said Mr Howarth. "We saw Dr Mawhinney opening up with an attack on local government and some unfortunate remarks

tirade of anti-foreigner emotion. It is exactly what I warned against. This retreat by the Tory party into narrow, aggressive insularity will be a catastropbe for the country."

His lasting impression was of Mr Major sitting "hunched and wan" while Michael Portillo did his "great dictator bit". At the end Mr Major had been forced to lead the applause, a

prisoner of his right-wing. Mr Blair was pressed on whether Mr Howarth could expect to return to the House of Commons as a Labour MP? And there was a hint of the Trojan horse; how could the Labour leader expect his party to trust such a turncoat? · Mr Blair stood by his man. It

was "absolutely clear that the Labour Party has taken Alan to its heart," be said. And he was sure be would be carefully considered for selection.

Rollerbladers are rocked by parks ban

CLARE GARNER

The Royal Parks Agency banned rollerblading in four of London's parks yesterday and decided to restrict the sport to specific areas in others.

On the grounds that parks are primarily for pedestrians", the agency has turned four of the capital's eight Royal Parks - St James's Park, Green Park, Regents Park and Greenwich Park - into no-go areas for in-line skating, as it is officially called.

It has conceded limited access to roads and cycle routes in Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens and given a free rein in Bushy Park and Richmond Park.

David Welch, the agency's chief executive, would ideally like skaters to go elsewhere. He has urged them to seek out "alternative, more suitable venues" for their sport. The Royal Parks are pri-marily for pedestrians and, al-

though we try to accommodate as many activities as we rea-

sonably can, we cannot let any single activity dominate a park to the detriment of other park

Davina Weir-Willats, spokeswoman for the British In-Line Skating Association (BISA), branded the ban "undemocratic" and "unfair". She said: "Skating can appear intimidating to pedestrians, but is, in truth a safe and enjoyable past time with, on the whole, a good

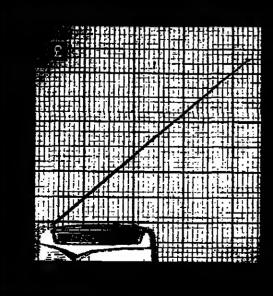
The clampdown follows a

summer in which unprecedented numbers of skaters took face of Dr Knapman's recomto the parks. Earlier this year, a cyclist, Mark Welch, 26, died after being in a collision with a skater in Hyde Park.

The agency has promised to follow up the recommendation of the coroner at Mr Welch's inquest, Dr Paul Knapman, to seek stronger powers to deal with anyone whose behaviour interferes with the safety and enjoyment of other park users. However, Ms Weir-Willats

mendations which included the assertion that rollerbladers had as much "right" to be in the parks "as a nanny with a pushchair".

The new arrangements in Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens will be monitored and reviewed after six months. A code of conduct for skaters in the Royal Parks has also been amended to include the new re-



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Rosemary West trial: Guilt and remorse of sex attack victim still undergoing therapy 23 years after assault at Cromwell Street

Twant justice for girls who didn't make it'



Caroline Owens: 'I want to get justice for the girls who didn't make it, because I feel Photograph: Roger Allen

The victim of a sex attack by Rosemary and Frederick West broke down in the witness box at Winchester Crown Court yesterday, saying she blamed herself for the Cromwell Street

killings.
"I want to get justice for the girls that didn't make it, because I feet like it is my fautt," said Caroline Owens, who then started to sob and slumped for-

ward in the witness box.

Mr Justice Mantell, the judge, asked somebody to help her and an usher assisted Mrs Owens, 39, from the court.

On Tuesday, Mrs Owens had told the court that in December 1972 the Wests picked her up while she was hitch-hiking. She was then knocked unconscious, bound and gagged and taken to 25 Cromwell Street, Gloncester, where she was raped by Mr West and sexually assaulted by both of them.

She was giving evidence at the trial of Mrs West, 41, who denies murdering I0 girls and young women whose remains were found at Cromwell Street and at the Wests' previous home in Gloucester.

Mr West, who was charged with 12 murders, was found dead in his prison cell on 1 Jan-

It was revealed in a statement read out in court yesterday that Mrs Owens attempted suicide by taking a drugs overdose four years after the attack and that she is still receiving counselling more than 20 years later.

In the statement that Mrs Owens made to police last year, she said: "After the abduction and rape in 1972, I was very depressed and had low self-esteem. I was prescribed librium tablets to help by my family doc-

She said that in 1976 she had moved to Weston-super-Mare. "A doctor there prescribed me mild tranquillisers, siniquon, I think. The next day I took an overdose, about 25 tablets."

Mrs Owens was taken to hospital where her stomach was pumped, but her problems have continued and she said in the statement that she was still being helped by a counselling service in Gloucester.

have been very sensitive to people being close to me and cuddling me since being abducted



Fred and Rosemary West: Pleaded guilty to assaulting Caroline Owens in 1973

by Fred and Rose. In particular, I am wary of other adult females even friends. I have a terrible feeling of worthlessness.

When I became aware of the women that had been murdered and the alleged involvement of Fred and Rose West in 1994, I felt anger, frustration, guilt. I felt that if I had gone to court on my rape case, I could have stopped it." Mrs Owens explained in ev-

idence yesterday that she could have insisted that Mr West was charged with rape. Instead, she settled for both the Wests being charged with assault causmg actual hodily harm and indecent assault.

The couple pleaded guilty to both charges when they appeared at Gloucester magistrates' court in January 1973 and were fined £50 each. A rape charge would have certainly West, just three months before in the Cromwell Street cellar. story in order to make it more Mrs Owens, who worked for saleable to the media. Mr Ferguson suggested that the Wests as a nanny, said yes-Mrs West had not had oral sex terday that she felt ashamed with her, that Mr West did not

knock her unconscious and lat-

er beat her with a belt, and that

she had not been tied up or raped. Mrs Owens replied: "I

swear oo my baby's life they did

Mr Ferguson said: "You

have added these details in a

process of making your account more dramatic and more

commercial when it came to

intention of selling my story. I

had already told the police the

details. I did not go to the pa-

pers, I didn't want them to find

But Mr Ferguson later made

defence. He said: "The de-

of Mrs Owens' police state-

me but they did."

Mrs Owens replied: "I had no

take place."

Staniland and Alan Davies, two lodgers at Cromwell Street. She said: "The police treat-ed me really badly. That put me off going to court as well. I decided to cover it all up. I put it

about the attack and also be-

cause she had previously had

sexual intercourse with Ben

to the back of my mind." Mrs Owens admitted yesterday that she had signed a contract with the Sun newspaper for £20,000 for her exclusive story, £9.500 of which had already been paid. She had also been approached by other newspapers and television networks and had turned down an offer

Under cross-examination by fending Mrs West, she strongly denied that she had ments in 1994 are the same in cellar at Cromwell Street. embroidered the details of her all material particulars as the ac-

of £50,000 from the Sunday

newspaper." Re-examined by Brian Leveson, QC, for the prosecution, Mrs Owens said that during the attack Mrs West was "grinning and laughing wickedly - she looked evil to me".

count she gave during the course of her evidence and the contents of the document which

she later handed to the Sun

It was when Mr Leveson asked her "has commercial advantage anything to do with why you have come to court today? that Mrs Owens said she had done so for the girls who died and broke down in tears.

The next witness was the mother of Lynda Gough, who told the jury of eight men and four women how she had visited the Wests' home to took for her daughter after she went missing.

June Gough said that oo 19 April, 1973, her daughter left their home in Gloucester without warning and took all her possessions with her. She left a note which said: "I have got a flat and I will come and see you some time.

When Lynda, 19, did not get in touch, her parents became worried and Mrs Gough made inquiries which led about two weeks later to Cromwell Street.

The door there was answered by a woman who she recognised as having once come to the Goughs' home to take Lynda out for a drink. A man joined the woman at the door. She told the court: "I said that

I'd come to see Lynda, They said she wasn't there. That she had left. They said she was going to Weston-super-Mare,
"I immediately noticed that

she was wearing Lynda's slippers and some other article of clothing which I can't immediately hring to mind. "I said: 'But those are Lyn-

da's slippers you are wearing and there are some of Lynda's things on the washing line," She said that she had left them behind when she left.

"I was saying all this but I got no feedback, there was nothing coming back," said Mrs Gough, who continued to search for her daughter.

She went to the police, the an admission on behalf of the Salvation Army and to Westonsuper-Mare - all to no avail. da's remains were found in the

£79°

£95

£99'

£118

£135

£166

£195°

£218

Football stars in court to face match-rigging charges

STEVE BOGGAN

Three of the Premier League's top football stars appeared in court for the first time yesterday to face charges of match rigging.

Bruce Grobbelaar, the Southampton and Zimbabwe goalkeeper, John Fashanu the retired Aston Villa striker, and Hans Segers, the Wimbledon goalkeeper, appeared at the magistrates court in Southampton, Hampshire, with a Malay sian businessman, Heng Suan Lim, 11 months after the allegations of bribery in British foot-ball first surfaced.

All four are charged with con-spiring "to give and corruptly to accept gifts of money as inducements improperly to influence the outcome of football matches or as rewards for having done so".

Mr Grobbelsar, 37, faced two further charges. That on 25 November 1993, while still playing for Liverpool, he "corruptly accepted from John Fashanu ... the sum of £40,000 as a reward for having ... improperly influenced the outcome of the Liverpool versus Newcastle United football match on 21 November 1993" - Newcastle won the game 3-0. And that he accepted £2,000 from Christo-



Grobbelear outside court yesterday Photograph: Edward Webb

pher Vincent, a former business associate, for "improperly influencing the outcome of a football match or matches".

The Zimbabwe national goalkeeper, dressed in an olivereen suit and white shirt, sat in front of the dock with his coaccused. He spoke to none of them during the 40-minute hearing but smiled once during representations for the prosecutions by David Evan-Hughes. Mr Fashanu, 32, a presenter of ITV's Gladiators show, faced

charges relating to both of the games on which the prosecution is concentrating. He is alleged to have been responsible for the £40,000 payment to Mr Grobbelaar and for a further payment

of £19,000 to Mr Segers. The charges allege that be-tween 18 and 25 October 1994 he paid Mr Segers for "having improperly influenced the outcome of the Wimbledon versus Liverpool match played on 22 October 1994". The final score was 3-0 to Liverpool.

The second charge against Mr Segers, 33, the former Dutch in-

ternational keeper, relates to the alleged receipt of the £19,000. Mr Lim, 29, who described himself as a student and trader, faced only the joint con-spiracy charge. Despite earlier media reports describing him as a millionaire, Richard Clark, the deputy stipendiary magistrate for Hampshire, was told that Mr Lim was on income support and had applied for legal aid.

A conspiracy charge against Melissa Kassa-Mapsi, Mr Fashanu's wife, has been dropped. ed on bail until 1 December, by which time the prosecution is expected to have lodged papers for their committal to Crown Court. Conditions attached to the men's bail require them to lodge their passports with po-lice and not to approach Mr Vincent and John Troup, a Sun reporter expected to be a wit-ness for the prosecution.

After the hearing, David Hewitt, Mr Grobbelaar's solicitor, complained about the delay in getting the case to court. "The matter first came to light II months ago," he said.

Outside the court, the players, smiling and tooking relaxed, were cheered by fans.

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Shell invites offers for Brent Spar

NICHOLAS SCHOON **Environment Correspondent**

The Brent Spar may eventually be cleaned out and sunk in shallow North Sea waters, turnmg it into a gigantic artificial reef, Shell said yesterday.

But the company said it did not want to pursue its original plan of sinking its oil storage buoy in deep water with residual contaminants still in its tanks.

Shell UK was setting out its new strategy for deciding how to dispose of the Spar, a 14,500 tonne, 450ft-tall redundant oil tank which spent 19 years in the

In June the company's plans dropped at the last minute after the successful protest cam-

group Greenpeace. The Spar is now in a Norwegian fjord.

Today, Shell will formally invite engineering and construction companies to express their interest in disposing of the structure. It has already received more than 200 offers.

Shell will select up to 30 companies to prepare more detailed proposals, from which a shortlist of six will be invited to draw up plans in depth. Then Shell will choose one to submit to the Government for

the necessary permission. Shell will choose what it regards as the best practicable ouvironmental option (BPEO) the one offering the best combination of minimising threats to workers' safety, damage to the

paign by the environmental environment and cost while maximising public acceptability. Previously it argued that the BPEO for the Brent Spar was

deep-sea dumping. The Government fully accepted this and defended it, which is why ministers were so angry when Shell backed down under pressure from Greeopeace. They insist Shell will have to draw up a highly persuasive case to gain ion for any other option.

Asked if deep-sea dumping could emerge as the BPEO once again, senior Shell UK executives refused to rule it out entirely. Heinz Rothermund, a managing director of Shell UK, said: "We should not be speculating now" on what would emerge after more than a year discussions and planning,

during which environmental groups would be consulted and reports published. But "good, convincing" alternatives were expected to emerge, even if they

were more costly.

Shell's Brent Spar project manager, Eric Faulds, said 95 redundant rigs had been dumped in shallow waters off the United States' coast to form reefs, boosting marine life. If this op-tion was ever chosen for the Brent Spar it would first have some 100 tonnes of oily silt removed from its tanks.

Greenpeace UK's campaigning director, Sarah Burton, said yesterday. "We have to give Shell the benefit of the doubt." But the group would strongly oppose turning the Brent Spar into an undersea reef.

TORIES IN BLACKPOOL

Lilley to curb benefits for asylum-seekers

NICHOLAS TIMMINS **Public Policy Editor**

Much tougher benefit rules for asylum seekers were announced yesterday by Peter Lilley, the Secretary of State for Social Security, as speakers at the Tory conference called for deeper cuts in welfare spending. The new rules - with a pos-sible announcement on pilot

workfare-style schemes for the unemployed, held back for John Major's speech on Friday - will save £200m a year by making it impossible to enter the country as a visitor, but then seek asylum to claim benefit.

Those who claim to be refugees as they enter the country will still qualify - but if their npplication is turned down, they will no longer be entitled fect about 50,000 people, was

take between six and 18 months.

The change was denounced as "totally inhuman" by the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, who said people fleeing from danger and hard-ship would be expected to "live on air" while they appealed.

tatives attacked the size of the £90bn social security hudget.
Mr Lilley nonetheless won a

standing ovation, confirming that a new credit card-style henefit payment card, which will eventually be held by about 19 million claimants of everything from income support to child clared to be his "top priority".

A scheme which pays Post Office staff £10 for every fraudulent benefit payment they spot is to go nationwide. Staff in the Midlands have earned £60,000 in a pilot scheme over the past two years, seizing order books and Girocheques worth £4m. Mr Lilley appeared to hint at

to benefit during the period of the only direct spending cut Mr to help cut fraud – the area of new requirements for some of benefits comes as the number any appeal, a process which can Lilley announced as represen-social security Mr Lilley de-the long-term unemployed to of applicants has climbed from work in return for benefit, and at possible cuts in benefits for

> He also said employers who pay above statutory sick pay rates will be able to opt out of the state scheme - a measure that will cut employers' costs but not public spending.

were granted refugee status, with a further 4 per cent of those new younger, lone parents. appealing successfully, accordine to Government figures. Seventy per cent claim asy-

last year. In 1994 just 4 per cent

lum after arriving as visitors. tourists or students, having

standing they will support them-selves. Seeking asylum then en-titles them to benefits. just over 3,000 in 1984 to 42,000

Those who claim asylum as they arrive in the country will still be entitled to help," Mr Lil-

ley said. But they would lose it

pena

Mr-hor

if their application was turned down and they appealed. "We all want to help genuine refugees. But Britain should be a safe haven, not a soft touch."

Big spenders take on the Chancellor over tax cuts

COLIN BROWN and NICHOLAS TIMMINS

The three higgest spending departments are involved in a fierce hattle with Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, as he strives to meet the Prime Min-ister's demand for "ruthless"

room for pre-election tax cuts. The Chancellor is expected today to insist that tax cuts will come only when he judges it prudent. His problems are high-lighted by the fact that neither health nor education, two of the three "protected" areas - and therefore in theory two of the easiest to settle - have yet reached agreement on next year's spending levels.

Peter Lilley, the Secretary of State for Social Security, is vigorously resisting short-term cash cuts in his hudget, warning

they could cause the political difficulties that his area-byarea longer-term review of social security has largely avoided. Stephen Dorrell at Health -

despite announcing a 5 per cent £140m cut in NHS management costs next year - is inister's demand for "ruthless" sisting that the manifesto pledge spending reductions to leave of real-terms growth in NHS spending must mean just that, and not the absolute minimum figure needed to meet the pledge. And Gillian Shephard at Education is still not satisfied that she has sufficient cash to prevent a repeat of last year's explosion of anger over the underfunding of teachers' pay

Sources indicate that capital spending is to be hit hard across the board - shelving new roads and hospital building that is not privately financed. The Treasury is insisting that the private finance initiative be extended into new areas, including university and higher education

But Mr Clarke is expected to ease his problems to some extent by selling off the Housing Corporation's loan portfolio to the private sector - a move that could raise £1bn that could be spent on reducing borrowing or cutting taxes, or by providing an mdirect boost to the housing market if the cash was given to housing associations to huy existing houses.

The Chancellor will address

the conference amid evident tensions in Cabinet over how far taxes should be cut next month. Several spending ministers he-lieve that deep public spending proportion of gross domestic lieve that deep public spending cuts now to make that possible would be politically dangerous so close to a general election -

ing hard to defend their corner. The independent Institute for Fiscal Studies yesterday called into question the Government's ability significantly to

cut the £90bn social security spending further. "Realistically, further cuts will only be achieved if the Government gives up its responsibility for ma-jor areas of social security spending, such as universal pension provision, and it is unlikely that this Budget will contain any such drastic measures," the

Its annual green Budget argued welfare spending was not out of control with projections product thanks to measures the Government has already taken, which have cut projectand while others support tax ed spending by £4bn a year.



Hair apparent slips up on greasy pole

Justin Hinchcliffe's problem was his hair. All week he had been trying to become the youngest ever speaker at the Tory party conference and at the last he failed.

He arrived in Blackpool with a three-point plan in his bag which involved: being 14, telling the Daily Mail he wanted to be Prime Minister, and espousing a political agenda that would have been rejected as too extreme by the members of the Portillo Expeditionary Force presently sticking up for Eng-land in Oslo. But he forgot to

pack the shampoo. So he sat silent during the education debate he had hoped to make his own, his hair a skid-pan of adolescent hormones. threatening to enslick those around him every time he nodded. As speaker after speaker berated Tony Blair for sending his son to an opted-out school, a posse of photographers sur-rounded young Justin, snapping his disappointment as he remained ignored by party spin doctors terrified at presenting so unwashed a vision of Torydom to the voters.

The last name called from the floor had him pricking up his ears in excitement. It was Justin But - a cruel jest by the chairman - it referred to Justin Powell-Tuck, president of the Federation of Conservative Students, a portly gent in a suit who had clearly taken the Brandon Lee route to university since he didn't appear to be a day under 35.



The fearsome young Hinchcliffe, then, will have to wait another year. He will have learnt, though, from being in the hall to watch Michael Heseltine, a man who knows all about the presentational importance of well-kept hair. The Heseltine mane has subtly changed as its owner's responsibilities have

become more expansive. The First Secretary of State, as be now titles himself, sculpts it these days into a big M shape, like he's walking around with the McDonald's golden arches on his forehead: the perfect endorsement from the champion of international capitalism. Big Mac head was on enormous form. That is the first thing young Justin would have noticed

about him. While the others on the plat-form peer over the top of Bri-an Mawhinney's set in the way members of the polithuro used to over the Kremlin balcony, Heseltine towered above it. Not so much head and shoulders above his colleagues as chest and midriff. His speech was an election rallying call, full of loud boasts about Tory achievement. In the Heseltine

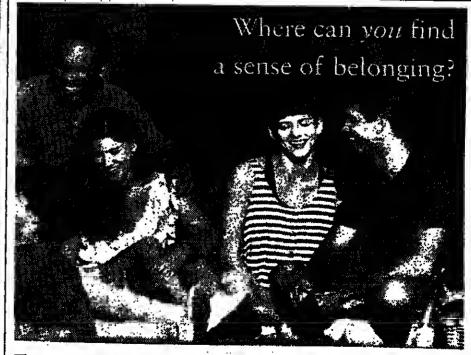
vision in 16 years not a part of our land has remained untouched by the healing fingers of Conservative rule.

"I have spent most of my political life seeking to improve the lot of our inner cities," he said, As you do when you're MP for Henley-on-Thames.

There were reminders, too, of who was in charge. And, though he warmly credited the Prime Minister, the way Major sat lovingly looking up at him like a gun-dog at its master's knees, left little doubt as to who that was. Hence he was full of demands for internal party discipline, cunningly dressed up as assaults on Labour.

"You can mouth whatever patriotic rhetoric the PR men can devise," he snorted, ostensibly at Tony Blair, but Michael Portillo was significantly absent from the hall, off at the opticians perhaps having his eyes ungoggled. And then the Deputy Prime Minister warned: "The British people are not for sale." So bang goes another William Waldegrave initiative

on raising funds for tax cuts. As has been standard for the past 20 years. Heseltine won a thunderous ovation. A woman in the front row waved a hankie wildly as if to a loved one from the quayside, John Major flapped his hig sea-lion hands together, and even Ted Heath, was moved to clap at least three times. So huge an ovation, indeed, it probably drew complaints about the noise. From as far away as Walworth Road.

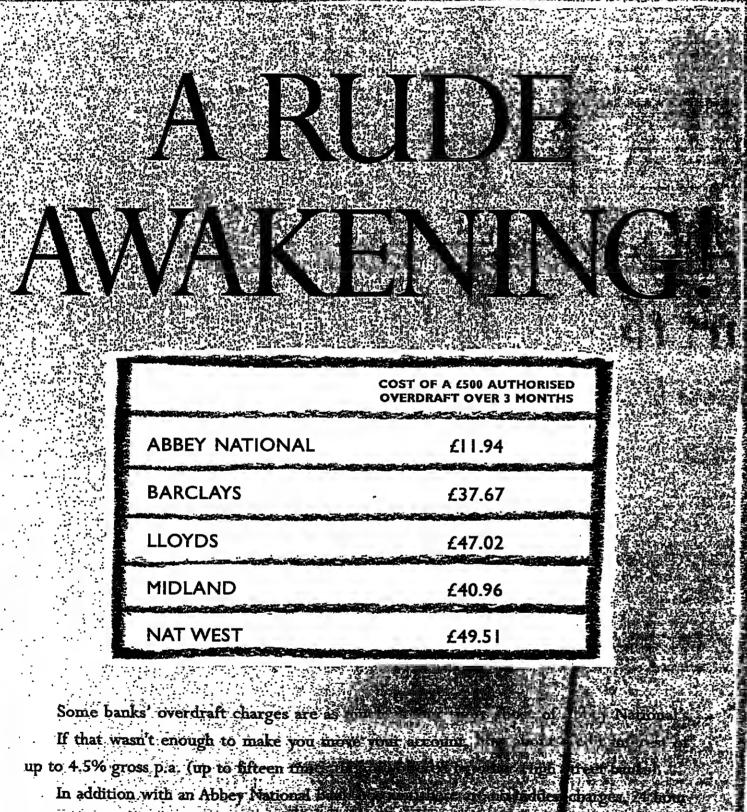


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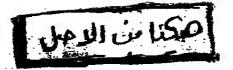
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- THERES IN BLACKPOOL

Education debate: Good English and heads' training seen as top priorities

Shephard to penalise 'grunting' youngsters

STEPHEN GOODWIN and JUDITH JUDD

seeken

Adolescents whose principal means of communication is a modulated grunt will find it recorded in their GCSE English results, under proposals put forward yesterday by Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for

Education and Employment. Mrs Shephard's drive to improve standards also includes a suggestion that rules of spelling and grammar could be advertised on buses and trains.

After taking in the "poem on the Underground", commuters would be able to brush up on the split infinitive or where to put their apostrophes.

"Our language is too precious a national asset to be neglected, she said. "Our young people must leave school able to speak clearly and effectively in standard English. Communication by grunt is not good enough.

Mrs Shephard, who was given a prolonged standing ovation, announced the setting up of a steering group to take forward her Campaign for the Better Use of the English

reader, Trevor McDonald, it will be provided with £250,000 to meet administrative costs for two years and thereafter it must find private sector funding. The group will include people from business, trade unions, sport and journalism.

While these "bright energetic people" pursued initiatives.
10 promote the use of better English, the Government's role

was to get pupils' qualifica-tions right, she said. In future, pupils will receive a grade for spoken English recorded separately on the GCSE certificate.

Currently, 20 per cent of the marks for GCSE English are given on oral performance, but the result is not recorded sep-

Mrs Shephard insisted the campaign was not about regional accents, hut about ensuring young people could speak clearly and comprehensibly. "Employers tell us that far too many young people looking for jobs simply can't communi-

Her idea that spelling and grammatical rules could feature merscale, head of Westminster nounced a new professional Language. on public transport was not School, said: "This is yet another qualification for headteachers. Chaired by the ITN news mentioned to the conference, pressure, yet another hazard for "Strong, effective heads mean



Gillian Shephard listening to the debate yesterday

Photograph:

but buried in a press release ac- teachers of English to negotiate. companying the speech. Newspapers and hroadcasters could promote good English through competitions, it was suggested.

Delegates at the Headmasters' Conference in Dublin were unimpressed with Mrs Shephard's proposals. David Sum-

gond schools and higher stan-It will he very difficult to prodards," she said. duce an objective and dispas-The Teacher Training Agency sionate view of what standard

is being asked to start work on English should be." the project immediately, and to With school standards high have pilot schemes running by among the concerns of Tary the next academic year, members during the education debate, Mrs Shephard an-

Aimed at teachers and deputy heads seeking promotion, Mrs Shephard said she would not insist on serving

Launching an attack on Lahnur in his conference speech, Mr Dorrell said Labour had committed themselves to retaining health trusts and to separating the planning and

delivery of care. "Labour spokesmen inveigh against us - theo five years lat-er, Labour tells the world why we were right and they were

wrong. More than £2bn worth of Private Finance Initiative projects were under threat he said. "Labour haven't had five years to get used to it yet. They will. And in the middle of the next us we were right on this as well."

Yesterday at the conference Main announcements

Quotes of the day

Dorrell

admits

boom in

health

'suits'

The Government yesterday conceded that the growth of "grey suits" in the health service had spiralled out of control as Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of

State for Health, slashed 5 per

cent off next year's administra-

tion spending in health an-

The savings of around £140m

would be re-channelled into

improved patient care and not sacrificed to Treasury pressure

for cuts in the current public ex-

penditure round, Mr Dorrell

tape could follow from an effi-

ciency scrunity Mr Dorrell

The announcement is none

the less an admission that mon-

ey has been wasted on unnec-

Mr Dnrrell tald a news con-

ference: "I think it was a major

step forward to introduce and

strengthen management. We

have strengthened management

and we are going through a fa-

miliar process of having huilt up

to the process we are tighten-

ing up. The huild-up has led to

some unnecessary process. But the purpose of the build-up was

unambiguously right.
Mr Dorrell indicated that

significant numbers of admin-

istrative jobs would gn - al-

though the exercise could spawn more posts in patient

would report in 90 days.

sary administration.

Further reductions in red

thorities and trusts.

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES Political Correspondent

·Five per cent cut in hospital grey suits.

Saving £140m

Tougher benefit rules for asylum seekers, saving £200m

Raitrack to be sold off next spring

Campaign for the better use of the English language - grades for spoken English detailed on GCSE certificates and grammar posters on buses

"Politics is about serving your country's electorate and not puertie posturing." Lord Plumb, leader of the Conservative MEPs hits back at

posturing." Lord Prumb, resident of the Conservative Michael Heseltine
"They we are building a British show-stopper." Michael Heseltine
"The new benefit payment card - the taxpayer's inflexible triend." Peter
Lilley on his latest anti-fraud initiative.
"I am addressing conference as social security secretary for the
fourth time. Gait thinks I am suffering from long term wettere dependency." Mr Lilley. (Gail is Mrs Lilley.)
"New Labour is only old socialism in a designer suit. They even
crammed John Prescott into one." Gillian Shephard.

...bad day Devil of the day



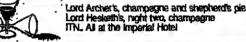
set out his right wing agends to a packed tringe meeting after addressing a virtually empty room on fluesday

David Curry lacklustre speach on the wrong subject - taked about house of the taken

The big three on the fringe

1 John Redwood on "Conservative Principles, Winning Ways" at the Seledon Group
2 Right-wingers Edward Leigh and lain Duncan-Smith on "The Future of Conservatism". Organised by the Freedom Association and YCs.
3 Lord Plumb taking on the Euro-sceptics. Conservative Group for

The arty to be seen at



Lord Hesketh's, night two, champagr TNL All at the imperial Hotel

Labour leftle MP Ken Livingstone and Liberat Democrat
Matthew Taylor, both making television programmes. David
Hare, author of a play about a Labour leader, Fat cats Cedric
Brown (British Gas) and tain Vallence (BT)

3min 43sec 92 decibels

GBlian Shephard Peter Lilley 2 2min → 40sec 92 decibels

Hisping Belloc for providing the inspiration for the most humorous and thoughtful speech of the day. Peter Lilley parodied one of the poets

Today's speeches

lan Lang, Trade and Industry, William Hague, the Young, Kenneth Clarke; Economy, Michael Howard, Home affairs, St. Parick May-Clarke, Economy, many here Northern Ireland

War-horse Heseltine rallies the troops

COLIN BROWN

Chief Political Correspondent

Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, issued an election rallying call to Tory supporters with a promise that their annual conference in Blackpool represented a "turning point" like Alamein in the

Second World War.

if necessary. Three by-election defeats after the defection to Labour of Alan Howarth, the Tory MP, could force the Government to go to the country before the spring of 1997.

Mr Heseltine told the conference that some had compared the demoralised state of the Conservative Party to the defeated British army as it re-His call to arms followed a treated after Dunkirk. "I reject warning to party workers by the such defeatism. Remember in-Prime Minister at a private stead Alamcin. The turning

It was a vintage rallying cry from the party's old warhorse, and it won the longest standing ovation of the conference.

With his blond hair falling over his forebead, Mr Heseltine put the boot into Tony Blair and the Shadow Cabinet, accusing the Labour leader of "nauseating bypocrisy" for sending his son Evan to a grant maintained school while "kicking the ladders of opportunity" away from "inner-city kids" by GM status prepared for an early election, ence is such a turning point." assisted places system.

He indulged in some pan-tomime, recalling his warning to the conference 20 years before "left, left, left". Acting like a drill sergeant major on the platform, he demonstrated how Mr Blair's troops bad wheeled round, and were marching

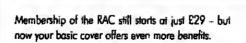
right, right, right." The former President of the Board of Trade also criticised Mr Blair's coup with BT to supply every school, hospital, library the information technology su- IT links to institutions.

perhighway. "You cannot cre-ate an IT superhighway if you do secret deals with a mocopthat Labour was marching to the oly power and undermine the competitiveness that makes the whole thing possible," he said.

lan Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, was due last night to have private talks at a reception at Blackpool with Ian Vallauce, the BT chief. Mr Lang is expected to tell the conference today that the cable network companies are prepared

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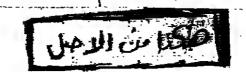
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306
PEUGEOT

THE PEUGEOT 306. DRIVES THE IMAGINATION



Only 6 per cent of depart-

ments at the bottom of a five-

point research status scale were

graded excellent - suggesting

that the new universities claims

to concentrate on good teach-

ing rather than academic advances may be ill-founded. Six

out of ten excellent gradings

were found to the largest 40 per

cent of departments.

Last night, new universities agreed that good teaching must be backed by good research, and they called for extra funding

to help them improve their

Professor Mike Brown, pro vice chancellor of De Montfort

University, the former Leicester Polytechnic, said only one

out of ten departments assessed

there had gained an excellent "I don't think we can cry

'foul'. It is certainly true that the

traditional universities have

been resourced far better than

the polytechnics and it will take

many years to equalise." he said:

Education, Section Two.

performance

universities fails

level io engineering, science

The report analyses almost

1,000 assessments in 15 differ-

ent subjects carried out between February 1993 and March 1995. It will be published

next month in the annual report

of the quality division of the

Higher Education Funding

Couocil for England, which oversees the peer reviews of uni-

versity teaching quality.
Of a total of 976 departments

assessed, three-quarters were

satisfactory. Almost 80 gave

cause for concern before the m-

spection visit, but only 12 re-ceived an "uosatisfactory"

rating, just one of which was in

an old university. In chemistry,

computer science and history,

only one department in the en-tire former polytechnic sector

there is no proven connection

between the results of these as-

search achievements or size of

a department, it does point to

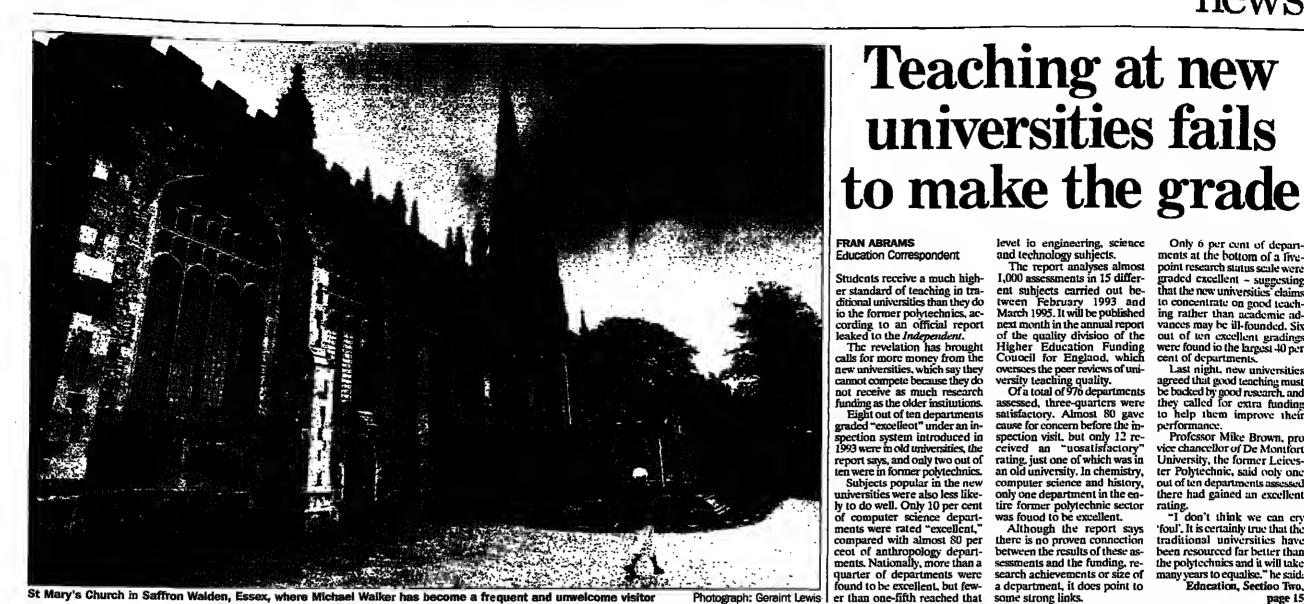
some strong links.

Although the report says

ments and the funding, re-

was found to be excellent.

and technology subjects.



Churches to

seek ban on beggar

JOHN McKIE

BODY

Two churches are today taking High Court action to ban a beggar from visiting the premises, except for religious services.

St Mary's Church in Saffron Walden, Essex, alleges that beg-

gar Michael Walker has stolen from its collection boxes, charged visitors for admission. verbally abused other visitors. opened envelopes and urinat-ed in the church grounds over a terr year period.

The 15th-century hill-top

church and Stansted Church the church nearest Mr Walker's home - are seeking an injunction stopping him entering the premises of the churches "except during the times of divine

The warden of St Mary's, Lawrence Gooderham, said yesterday: "You can't turn the other cheek forever and it's having a terrible effect on people coming to the church.

"St Mary's is one of the major tourist attractions of the area and everyone visiting Saffron Walden wants to see it.

He tries to steal the church guidebooks and sell them to tourists. A lot of people find him frightening.
"We haven't got a full-time

staff, only a welcoming rota. When he sees a gap in the rota and there's no one at the church entrance, then he goes in. He's very clever.
"Members of the clergy have

spent a lot of time trying to get through to him but he's not the sort of person with whom you can have a logical conversation. The form of his language isn't such that you could print it."

Essex County Council has already gained an injunction ban-ning him from all libraries in the county and he now lives in a



council house in Stansted, having been driven out of Saffron Walden by angry residents and

Mr Gooderham added: "Saf-fron Walden is his great love and he still manages to hitch-hike his way into the area.

"He is able to claim benefit,

he just takes money from visitors to supplement his income." A spokeswoman for Uttlesford council, which was behind his ban from Essex libraries,

said: "He only leaves the library

after the police have been called. It's very difficult." This will not be Mr Walker's first visit to court. He represented himself against the council and is expected to present his

own defence today. Hc was oot available for comment yesterday.

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so happy I could cry." And so she did. So what was Margaret's advice? If you are thinking of moving or buying your first home, and would like a rate of 2.65% in the first year, £300 cashback and a free valuation, don't be crazy - just pop into your local Nationwide branch, or call free on 0800 30 20 10 quoting ref. PU80.

science A-levels boards to set papers in all sub-**GOUL HINGUL**

Heads seek fairer

Education Editor

Exam boards should change their marking so that bright A-level science students are not penalised, private and state school heads said yesterday. In a joint statement issued at

the Head Masters' Conference in Dublin they said pupils were deterred from taking science in the sixth form because they believed that it was harder to get good grades than in art subjects. The heads accused the exam

boards of "norm referencing" allocating a very similar percentage of candidates to each grade each year. Since a higher proportion of bright pupils take science rather than arts, they suffer accordingly.

Research has shown those with an average of grade B at GCSE gain on average half a grade less in A-level physics, maths and chemistry than would have been expected from their GCSE receive.

their GCSE results. Graham Able, head of Hampton School, a London private school, said it should not be beyond the wit of the exam

jects every year to the same stan-dard, so that it was as easy, or difficult, to get a grade A in physics as in English or media

John Dunford, president of the Secondary Heads Associa-tion, said: "There is no such thing as an A-level standard, gold or otherwise." Heads said they did not want

the exams made easier but the boundaries between grades should be changed so it was easier to get As and Bs in science. George Turnbull, of the As-

sociated Examining Board, said the boards did not use norm referencing. "There are no exteroal constraints on the numbers getting grades. The standard in each subject is the one set when A-level began and maintained by the boards ever since. A decision to change that standard could not be taken by us."

Heads said they would like all pupils to continue some science in the sixth form. The statement says: "As a nation we need a scientifically literate population as well as a ready supply of ap-propriately qualified scientists." Find us on the Internet at http://www.nationwide.co.uk/nationwide

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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.



news

Ozone scientists win Nobel prize

STEVE CONNOR Science Correspondent

Pioneering research into the structure of matter and the vulnerability of the Earth's protective ozone layer have won this year's Nobel prizes for physics and chemistry.

Martin Perl, of Stanford University, and Frederick Reines, of the University of California. share the physics prize for their separate discoveries of two subatomic particles that help to explain the birth of the universe.

The Nobel prize for chemistry is shared by three scientists for their work on the ozone layer: Paul Crutzen, a Dutchman working at the Max Planck-Institute in Mainz, Germany, Mario Molina, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Sherwood Rowland, of the University of California.

The three chemists helped to show that the ozone layer is the Achilles' beel of the Earth's biosphere, the Swedish Academy of Sciences said. "By explaining the chemical mech-

of the ozone layer, the three researchers bave contributed to our salvation from a global environmental problem that could have catastrophic conse-

Paul Crutzen demonstrated in 1970 that atmospheric ozone could be destroyed by nitrogen exides - environmental pollutants - in the presence of sunlight. Four years later, Molina and Rowland alerted the world to the threat to the ozone layer posed by the release of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), used in aerosol sprays and refrigerators. Their work led to the first restrictions on the release of CFCs during the late 1970s and early 1980s.

The Nobel Prize for Physics recognised the discovery of two of the 12 smallest constituents of the Universe - the tau par-ticle, which is like an electron but thousands of times heavier, and neutrinos, produced by nuclear reactions within the Sun. The research opened up a new



King's ransom: One of the 78 priceless 11th-century Lewis che

Church 'shamed' by child sex abuse

Cardinal Cahal Daly, the leader of Ireland's Catholics, yesterday spoke of his church's "deep hame" over sexual abuse of children by priests. After a three-day conference of Ireland's bishops, the cardinal described assaults on children as "an appalling breach of a sacred trust".

He said: "It has caused immense burt to many children and families. To all victims and their families and friends we express in the name of the church our most bumble apology for the hurt caused to them.

"We are deeply ashamed that some priests and religious have been abusers of children - a few of them on a wide scale."

The cardinal's comments followed a regular meeting of bishops during which almost all the proposed agenda was set aside for discussion of the sex abuse crisis facing the Catholic Church in Ireland. There bave been a growing number of courtroom charges and allegations of sex abuse against priests

and church institutions. Last week the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr Desmond Connell, admitted lending £27,500 from church funds to a curate to settle abuse claims, and there was confirmation that another priest had made a £50,000 settlement.

Dr Daly said that because of the urgency with which the church hierarchy regarded the issue, the bishops had decided that all reports of serious allegations of child sex abuse against priests would in future be relayed to the police.

This was in line with the central recommendation of a report on child sex abuse from an advisory committee established two years ago. The report is not due to be published until the end of this year, but Dr Daly said the

policy was official immediately. We want to make it clear that it is the policy of the bishops that all allegations where there is rea-sonable cause to suspect that child sex abuse may have occurred will be reported to the appropriate civil authorities. This reporting practice goes beyond what the law requires but we have adopted it after considering all the issues involved."

The cardinal highlighted the "distress and pain" felt within the church. "We assure our lay faithful that their confidence in their priests is well-founded because of the exemplary fidelity and dedication of the vast majority. This has been, and continues to be, a very painful issue. Our primary concern and preoccupation has been the protection and care of children

Although Dr Daly spoke out forcefully about the issue following the bishops' conference in Maynooth, Co Kildare - the church's leading centre for the training of priests - church au-thorities betrayed some sensitivity during the early stages of the three-day meeting. At one point a security guard turned away journalists and a senior clene used strong language when

court 1

How

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B British Midland

Greens try to stay afloat in sea of troubles

NICHOLAS SCHOON **Environment Correspondent**

If Conservative delegates in Blackpool feel a little down about their party's fortunes, they might find some consolation 30 miles down the coast in Southport.

There, the Green Party is holding its autumn conference for the next four days, and it re-ally has got problems. Mem-bership is down to 4,000 and the party is making heavy losses.

The Greens are now resigned to fielding around 70 parliamentary candidates at the oext general election after putting up some 400 at the last two. It will be their smallest showing since 1979 - the year the Greens reckon they first registered on the British electoral scene.

At their last nationwide outing before the voters, in the European Parliament elections of June 1994, they woo less than 2 per cent of the vote. That was sad contrast with the arrows mirabilis of 1989 when they notched up 15 per cent.

Since then, there have been bitter splits, with Sara Parkin quitting the party along with several other leading lights. David icke, once a principal speaker. reinvented himself first as a "son of godhead" and then as a fantastic conspiracy theorist, while Jonathon Porritt - who is no onger active in the party - was almost expelled last year.

Yet the remaining stalwarts refuse to be downhearted as they strive for the social and industrial revolution they believe is needed to bring humanity into harmony with nature. David Taylor, one of the Greens' two principal speakers, said: "We're used to having our obituary writ-

ten; we're in good heart." Yesterday dozens of them descended on Blackpool beach, to demand that the Government condemn French nuclear tests, before travelling to Southport for their own conference.

The Greens' agenda and reports show a degree of painful honesty and self-criticism that none of the mainstream parties would ever dream of putting on display. "Once again a difficult year in which membership and income has continued to fall."

writes treasurer Brian Burnett. About one-third of the Greens' 203 local parties are "at risk of collapse" with another third giving cause for concern. The party is budgeted to make a £30,750 loss this year, eating it too heavily," said Mr Taylor.

deep into its £80,000 reserves. However, the party can claim some credit for getting a Private Member's Bill promoting en-

ergy conservation in homes en-

acted into law earlier this year. The Greens drafted the first version -- it was later to be heavily watered down - and helped provide the nationwide lobbying pressure over several years which the Bill needed to get on to the statute book.

Now the Greens are working with Friends of the Earth to try







leading lights included and Jonathon Porritt

that would reduce traffic on the

The party's great hope most would say its only hope of returning to electoral relevance is the advent of proportional representation. With Labour endorsing a referendum on voting systems, the chances of PR being implemented are better than ever. "PR is a great hope, but we mustn't depend on

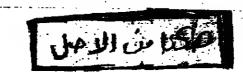
DAILY POEM

He Wishes for the Cloths of Heaven

Had I the heavens' embroidered cloths Enwrought with golden and silver light, The blue and the dim and the dark cloths Of night and light and the half-light, I would spread the cloths under your feet: But I, being poor, have only my dreams: I have spread my dreams under your feet: Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.

Tonight the BBC will announce the result of its quest to find the nation's favourite poem as part of National Poetry Day, writes Judith Palmer. The bookies have placed their shirts on Anden's "Funeral Blues" and Blake's "Tyger", but in an advance poll among visitors to the Poetry Library on London's South Bank earlier this week, it was this slight but shunmering poem, written by WB Yeats in 1893, which emerged as a clear winner. Runners-up in the library's most requested list - generally the result of poems, lines and half-lines heard in films - are Leo Marks' 'Code Poem for the French Resistance' from Carve Her Name With Pride, and Pablo Neruda's 'The Dead Woman' from Truly, Madly, Deeply.

fudith Palmer is a poetry archivist at the Royal Festival Hall.





MILA POEM a fer the Cloths of Her



Star billing, sky-high prices: Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras and Luciano Pavarotti at Wembley yesterday

Photograph: Geraint Lewis

Tenors hit Wembley at £350 a ticket

DAVID LISTER

Arts Correspondent The three tenors were officially labelled pop stars yesterday,

and appropriately enough announced a gig at Wembley Stadium with ticket prices up Luciano Pavarotti, equally

appropriately for a pop star, celebrates his 60th hirthday today.

He was joined at Wembley yesterday by Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras to announce the first world tour by the three, which will take in Japan, Australia, America and Germany as well as playing Wembley on

6 July next year.

But before they spoke.

Ahmet Ertegun, founder of Atlantic Records, who is associated with the tour, said he and the promoter Harvey Goldsmith had concluded that the three tenors were now bigger than the Rolling Stones or Led Zeppelin. They are the stars of the day. Bigger than any of the pop stars of today. They have a universal appeal which is bigger than any pop star."

As are their prices. At Wembley next year they will range from £35 to £350. But opera audiences, as opposed to rock audiences, at least have their about his allegedly tangled love life, was prepared to wax lyricomfort taken into consideration. They may have stars in their cyes, but they will be spared the sum in their cyes. For

Wembley will be built in front of the Royal Box to eliminate the glare of the sun as it sets. Yesterday the three tenors were pushed on to the defensive as journalists from around the world questioned the commer-cialism of the tour. "What is commercial?" asked Pavarotti,

the first time ever the stage at

his normally excellent grasp of English failing him for once. An Austrian journalist helped him out: "It means lots of money involved, basically," she said. Placido Domingo attempted to clear up the matter by say-

that they haven't realised we are

my father. But I will not sing at that age, I promise you." ing: "I think the fact so many people are talking about this is

luck to have a father of 83 alive and singing every day like a bird. "And to be an artist gives me the possibility to be innocent. I don't know about money. I don't know what is the price of things. That is going to keep me young and sometimes very crazy. I am looking to be 83 like

this event." Besides, added Car-

reras, it was an artistic challenge for them to sing with one an-

other, not a commercial one.

fused to answer any questions

cal about the joys of turning 60.

"To be 60 generally can be something very bad if you are there alone without an example

in front of you. I always have the

Pavarotti, who had earlier re-

Carreras and Domingo glanced at him, slightly alarmed. Like the Rolling Stones and Led Zeppelin they may well have been hoping for a comehack

Court backs Howard over IRA men's rights

The Home Secretary, Michael in the breakout but is applying Howard, was yesterday cleared by the High Court of accusations that be unlawfully denied IRA prisoners the right to proper contact with their families

Justice Wright rejected claims that he acted outside his powers by directing that convicted terrorists in "exceptionally high escape risk" category could receive only "closed visits".

Michael O'Brien, serving 18 years for attempted migder, and Liam O'Duibbuir, jailed for 30 years for conspiracy to cause ex-plosions, had claimed that the policy amounted to a fundamental breach of human rights. But the judges said "closed visit" arrangements in their cases could not be described as "other than reasonable, given society's need for protection against bigh-risk prisoners. They refused leave to appeal.

Mr Howard ordered a jail security clampdown after the attempted armed IRA breakqut from Whitemoor prison, Cambridgeshire, in September last year. The new arrangements apply to exceptionally high-risk Category A prisoners, of whom there are 13 in top-security jails. They have no physical contact with visitors and are separated by glass screens during

meetings.
O'Dhuibhir is being held at Belmarsh prison in south London and O'Brien is at Whitemoor. O'Dhuibhir took part in the Whitemoor incident and now faces a charge of breaking prison and possession of a

to the House of Lords for permission to appeal over his original conviction in March 1993.

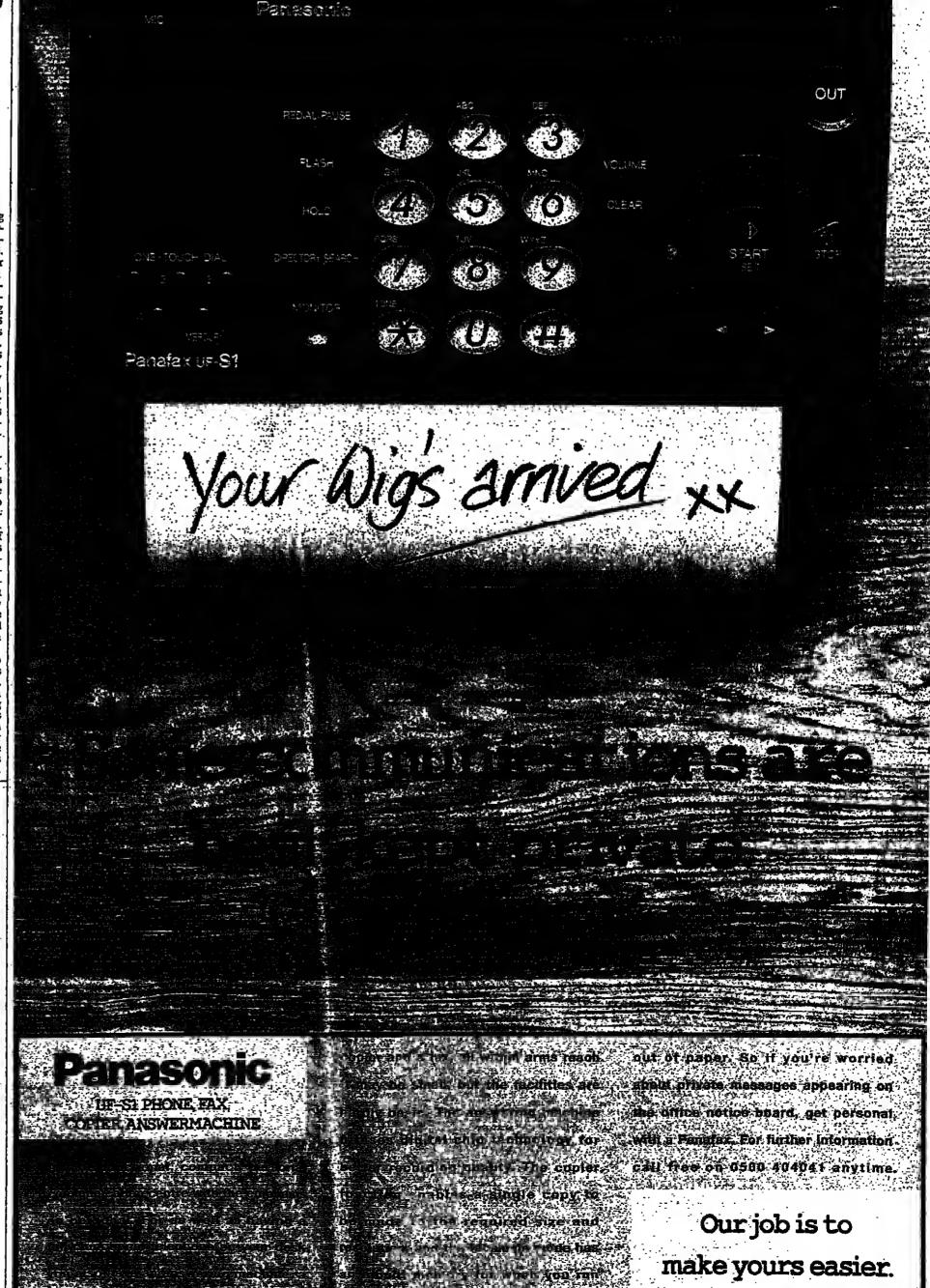
Edward Fitzgerald QC, for the two men, argued that the "closed" regime was unjustifi-Lord Justice Rose and Mr able in the light of other stringent security measures being enforced at top security prisons to prevent unauthorised items being smuggled to inmates. Visitors to special secure units in top security prisons had to undergo two body searches, X-ray screenings and pass through Fitzgerald. Security cameras were operating throughout vis-its. Babies even had to wear special prison nappies.

O'Brien was suffering mental illness as a result of the conditions under which he was being beld and faced the prospect of not being able to touch and hold his wife and children during his time in prison.

The judges said the loss of physical contact in O'Brien's case with his family was "of considerable significance". But provided humanitarian considerations were taken into account - as the evidence showed they were, said the judges - they were not such as should be regarded by the court as outweighing the security considerations.

The ruling comes just two weeks after Mr Howard was condemned twice in 48 hours. The European Court of Human Rights criticised the SAS killing of three unarmed IRA members in Gibraltar. Then the High Court in London found that Mr Howard bad delayed parole hearings for five of Britain's longest-serving IRA prisoners.





Value

news

Gays served in forces during **National Service**

STEPHEN WARD

Legal Affairs Correspondent

Army regulations allowed men on National Service to be ho-mosexual, the Ministry of Defence conceded yesterday at

the Court of Appeal.

The admission that gays had served in the forces in the past without undermining morale or discipline came on the third day of the latest legal stage nf an attempt by four former servicemen and women to overturn Britain's blanket ban on homosexuals in the armed forces.

Earlier in the bearing, the Master of the Rolls, Sir Thomas Bingham, had asked if there had been a ban on bnmosexuality when he had been serving, because be could not recall one.

Answering Sir Thomas's question yesterday, the MoD's counsel, Stephen Richards, said compulsory National Service for all men, which ended in 1961, was covered by Acts passed in 1939 and 1948. He said: "There were no provisions to cover bomosexuality." He said the list of exceptions including priests, lunatics and

conscientious objectors.' But he said there was "anecdotal evidence", although no "concrete examples", that some

people had been able to avoid national service by saying they were gay. He said homosexuality gal at that time, so it seemed that most people just

kept quiet about it. The four appellants are claiming that the ban on homosexuals is irrational, and breaches Equal Treatment directives under the European Union, and Britain's obliga-

tions under the European Con-vention on Human Rights. In his closing submissions vesterday their counsel, David Pannick QC, said no evidence bad been put forward during the hearings that there was a good reason to ban gays from the services. All the arguments relat-ed to behaviour, which could be governed by regulations without the need for a blanket ban.

Mr Pannick said the MoD bad argued that gays could not be allowed because other members of the forces did not want to serve alongside them. "These feelings undoubtedly exist, but there has been no evidence that they are based on any reasonable concern. If they are simply based on bigotry, they are unacceptable." He said feelings bad probably existed against serving alongside black people. but no one would suggest these

should be used as the basis to ban black servicemen and

The MoD bas argued that to lift the ban would seriously risk damaging the forces' fighting efficiency, and does not breach either treaty obligation.

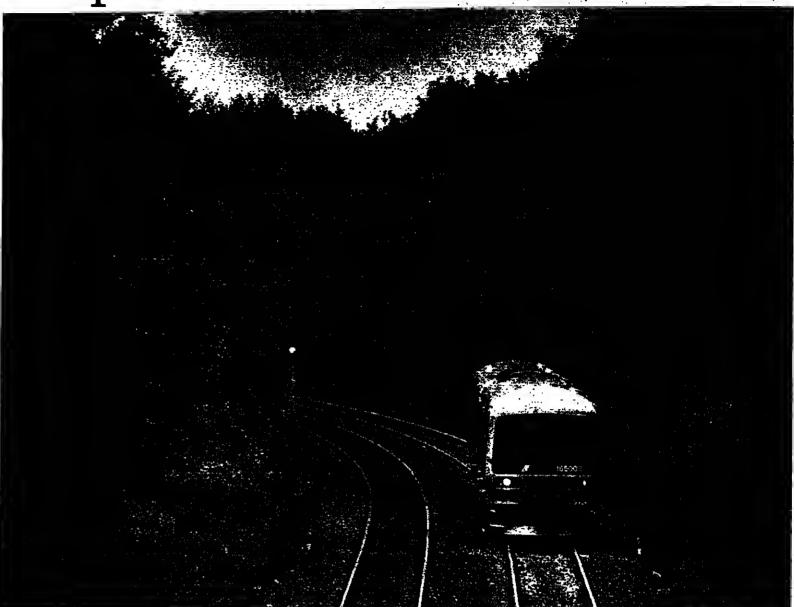
The case was rejected by the High Court in June, although one of the judges, Lord Justice Simon Brown, said be doubted the ban could survive much

onger. The MoD subsequently commissioned a review of the evidence, and is looking at the operation of other armed forces which do not ban gays. Britain is virtually alone among Nato allies in retaining a ban. The four appellants are Dun-

can Lustig-Prean, 36, a former lieutenant commander in the navy; Graeme Grady, 32, for-merly a sergeant in the RAF; Jeanette Smith, 28, an ex-RAF nurse, and John Beckett, 25 a former navy weapons engineer. All had civilian partners when they were discharged, and all had good service records. They bave said they will take their case to the House of Lords if they are turned down by the Court of Appeal.

The bearing ended and the

Keep leaves on the line, residents say



judges reserved their judgment. Off the rails: The trees Railtrack is threatening to chop down by the track at Farnborough, Hampshira

LIZ SEARL

The seasonal excuse of "leaves

on the line" is causing trouble

for Railtrack once again - but

this time because its customers

want the trees causing the prob-

lem to stay.

Railtrack has refused to back

down from a decision to fell over 700 established trees along

its Guildford to Reading route in order to "maintain the safe-

porary reprieve offered by Rail-

track while the issue was

discussed. But later in the day

came the decision that felling would soon begin alongside three-quarters of a mile of track near Famborough, Hampshire.
"We personally understand the problem that the residents

have with this decision," said

Jenny Rawlinson from Rail-

track South West. "But there re-

have a legal requirement to

make sure that the railway line

Railtrack claims that leaves

on the line turn that section of track into black ice in winter and

says the trees surrounding it are

spindly and unsafe. It plans to

clear eight metres from each

side of the track. But residents who were given only a matter

ty of the railway line". Yesterday, campaigners were celebrating a last-minute temPhotographs: John Voos

Sally Usher, one of the campaigners. "I will lose all of the birds and other wildlife that I

Residents are planning a

campaign and Rushmore Bor-ough Council will look into is-

suing a protection order on

"There will be total fury in the area when people find out what they have decided," said John Debenham, a councillor

on the planning committee. "We even understand that Rail-

track proposes to do this coun-

try-wide," he said. "There are

thousands of miles of track like

this which we call green corri-

dors. If all of it is going to be vandalised by Railtrack then something should be done about it on a national scale."

The council bad boped to find an alternative method of

curtailing the falling leaves or

to persuade Railtrack to con-

tinue to use its "leafbuster" enierė can onb

maximum of four trains an

hour on this piece of track." Mr Debenham said, Railtrack officers, however,

are adamant that their decision

cannot be reversed. "People

are saying we don't care and that's just not true, said Ms

Rawlinson. "We really do care. There is, unfortunately, no al-

ternative for us here."

love dearly.

the trees.

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Value of fertility treatment is questioned

Patient guide shows up the wide variations in success rates and is critical of the quality of service

LIZ HUNT

The first patient guide to fertility treatments in British hospitals and clinics reveals a wide variation in success rates, as measured by the number of live

It also raises the possibility that scores of people have been paying thousands of pounds for poor-quality treatments. In-vitro fertilisation (IVF) costs be-tween £700 and £2,500 per cycle and donor insemination (DI) costs £100 to £500.

The report shows the live birth rates for IVF treatments vary from 0 per cent to almost 20 per cent, giving a national average of 14 per cent. DI success rates range from 0 to around 43

per cent, giving a national average of almost 7 per cent.
The Guide, published yesterday by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), lists more than 90 fertility units and, for the first time, provides couples with information that, in theory, should maximise their chances of con-

However, Professor Robert Winston, the leading British fertility expert who works at the Hammersmith Hospital, west Loodon, dismissed the data in the Guide as "flawed and meaningless" and said its publication would force some units to abandoo research in favour of improving their success rates for commercial reasons.

'I just don't believe that the patients are getting the infor-matioo the HFEA says they are getting. I doo't believe that clinics will be bonest in pro-viding the [raw] data," he said yesterday.

A spokesman for Issue, the National Fertility Association, welcomed the HFEA initiative but said some of the data was two years old.

Ruth Deech, chairwoman of

the HFEA, dismissed claims that the Guide was a "league table" of fertility clinics. She said the Guide had been

sultation with clinics, patients and health anthorities about the best way to present the information, a fact disputed by Pro-fessor Winston.

The data had been adjusted to account for factors such as the age of the women treated, couples' fertility history, in-cluding previous treatments, and whether fresh or frozen embryos have been used. This meant it was "clear and mean-ingful and fair to clinics" and comparable, Mrs Deech said. The British Fertility Society welcomed its publication, she

"Success is not necessarily to be measured by the 'take home' baby rate. What matters is [a couple) being properly investi-gated and being enabled to make a decision about what is right for them.

Mrs Deech said patients would want to consider other issues, such as waiting lists, location of the clinic, restrictions on treatment such as age, tests and investigations offered, and

range of treatments.

The Guide urges patients to use the live birth rate figure only as a general guide and discuss with the clinic the likelihood of success in their own particular

But critics of the Guide say that the only figure that will matter to couples desperate for a baby is the live birth rate. They will oot consider factors such as number of patients and number of cycles of treatment (each attempt at achieving preg-nancy is called a treatment cycle) which largely determine success rates.

The multiple birth rate at a particular clinic is also an important factor because twin or triplet pregnancies can endanger the life of the mother and

The patients' Guide to DI and IVF clinics shows that the live birth rate following IVF (in which egg and sperm are mixed outside the womb) was 0 per cent at the Bupa Hospital Norwich, where only 28 cycles of published only after wide con- treatment had been adminis-

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tered, compared with 19.8 per cent at the Lister Hospital and the Royal Masonic Hospital, both private hospitals in London, where between 650 and

957 cycles were given to Success rates for donor in-

cent at Queen Mary's Hospital Sidcup (41 cycles) and the Bal-four Hospital in Orkney (2 cy-cles) to 42.6 per ceot at the University of Bristol IVF Ser-

semination varied from 0 per the Guide provided a "broadly

reassuring picture" and a cootinuing gradual increase in the national success rate for IVF and DI.

University of Bristol IVF Service (23 cycles).

Professor Allan Templeton, a member of the HFEA, said that

The Guide is available from HFEA, Paxton House, 30 Artillery Lane, London E17LS.

Send a SAE with 52p postage. Leading article, page 20



I am exhausted, but we just couldn't give up

GLENDA COOPER

Two weeks ago Donna Hunt again failed to conceive through IVF. It was her eleventh attempt in six years at ber fourth different clinic. In total she and her partner Neil Andertoo bave speot an estimated £13,000.

"Had I had the information the HFEA has now given out I would have used it to decide where to go." she said.

Ms Hunt's problems with cooceiving stem from two ectopic pregnancies [where the embryo implants in the fallopian tube] in the late 1970s, re-sulting in the loss of one of her ovaries and both ber tubes.

IVF was the only alternative.

Most of her treatments have beeo subsidised by the NHS al-

CASE STUDY "We've taken out loan after loan, we've done without holi-sociation, she has had two treat-

to pay for it." said Ms Hunt, a human resources assistant at Barnet General Hospital, "It's been extremely difficult, but we just couldn't give up."

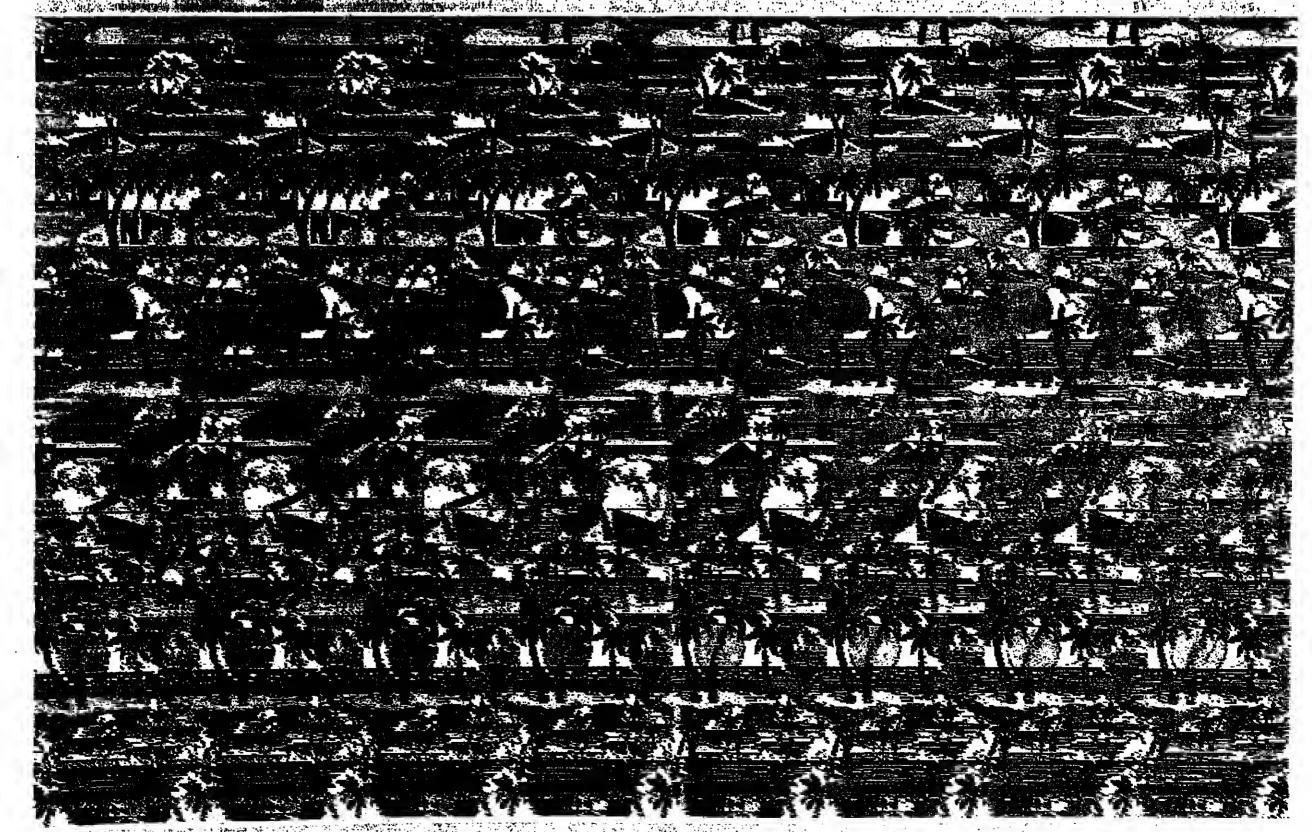
She added: "Emotionally it

has taken its toll. I'm absolutely exhausted all the time. I've also put on around three stone in weight because of all the hormones so you end up feeling not particularly good about yourself.

though for the last two she has choseo to go private. It has still proved financially crippling.

pub for a good couple of weeks." With support from Issue, the oational fertility asdays, carpeting and new clothes ments at London's Royal Free Hospital, one at University College Hospital and six attempts at St Thomas's, "At St Thomas's they took me aside after the sixth and said, 'We think you've done everything you can and

you'd better stop."
But Ms Hunt and Mr Anderton sought a secood opinion at the private London Women's Clinic in Harley Street. Since then Ms Hunt has had two "It also takes a toll oo your relationship. Neil and I had to sit down and talk things through. Like most meo it doesn't come automatically to do that. The treatment before treatment will out take place uotil February. "If that doesn't work I think we will call a balt." treatmeots there which have



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Bosnia ceasefire: An end to the fighting may be in sight but there are still plenty of diplomatic obstacles to ending the war

Dawning of an unstable peace

TONY BARBER **Europe Editor**

The Bosniao ceasefire announced yesterday represents the most promising opportunity yet to end a war that has torn apart the former Yugoslav for the last three and a half years. However, if the truce is to be converted into lasting peace, the Bosniao Muslims, Serbs and Croats will all have to accept limits to their political and ter-ritorial ambitions – limits for which oone has so far shown

Perhaps the main reason for thinking that the ceasefire will work is that, for the first time, military reality on the ground broadly corresponds to the peace proposals. The Muslim-Croat forces and the Bosnian Serbs each hold about half of Bosnia's land, a division of ter-ritory that matches the principle at the heart of the peace initiative devised by the US covoy, Richard Holbrooke.

Still, serious matters must be bammered out. The future of Sarajevo, the eastern eoclave of Gorazde and the oorthern area of Breko are all unresolved, and much uncertainty clouds the relationship between the Muslim

leaders and the Bosnian Croats. in the oorth around Baoja The Muslims, supported by

the US, argue that Sarajevo must not be partitioned into two sectors, one controlled by the government and the other by the Bosnian Serbs. But the Bosnian Serbs dislike the idea of resurrecting Sarajevo as a fuoctioning capital city, and equally ominously, some Bosnian Croats want a special Croat sector of Sarajevo.

Theo there is Gorazde, the last Muslim-held area in eastern Bosnia. If it is to stay part of the Muslim-Croat federation, should it be linked to the Sarajevo heartland by a corridor of land or merely by a road that would be under Serb cootrol? It is a measure of Bosnian Muslim sensitivities that the

US could not persuade the Sarajevo leadership to trade Gorazde for extra territory in central Bosnia. Indeed, Presideot Alija Izetbegovic regards it as a severe injustice that he should be asked to recognise Bosnian Serb cootrol of almost all the Drina valley towns in eastern Bosnia.

The Brcko corridor is a narrow strip of land that coopects Serb possessioos in eastern Luka. Retention of this corridor is crucial to the viability of the Bosnian Serb sub-state envisaged in the US plan, but there is still no accord on exactly how much land the Bosnian Serbs should have around Breko.

Ooe problem rarely addressed in public by US officials concerns the amhition of some Bosnian Croats to jettisoo the Muslim-Croat alliance in favour of a de facto uoion with Croatia itself.

The complete collapse of the Serb position in the Knin Krajina of Croatia, and in western Bosnia, has meant that there are tempting possibilities for the Bosnian Croats to reduce co-operation with the Muslims and form a united front with Zagreb. This would probably oot mean a formal Croatian annexation of Bosnian Croat territory, but it could doom the Muslim-led central Bosnian government in Sarajevo to paralysis.

Welcome though the cease-fire may be, it points to a peace settlement that penalises the Muslims without fully satisfying the Serbs and Croats. If it is the ooly peace available, it is



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France upset over Britain's

Bosnia move

MICHAEL SHERIDAN Diplomatic Editor

The Government was yesterday involved in an embarrassing clash of views with France after the Foreign Secretary, Mal-colm Rifkind, told the Conservative Party Conference that Britain would host an important peace conference on Bosnia.

A few hours after Mr Rifland's speech, the French foreign ministry reacted to the idea with such coolness that diplomats believed France had not given its agreement before he made the announcement. British officials strongly denied that that Foreign Secretary had jumped the gun on a seri-ous matter of foreign policy in

order to cut an authoritative figure before the party audience. There was, however, no explanation for the public divergence between two allies who have worked closely together in diplomatic and military policy towards the former Yugoslavia.

Mr Rifkind said in his speech at Blackpool oo Tuesday that Britain would host a Peace Imelementatioo Conference in London which "will follow the" proximity talks announced by President Clinton last week." British officials said it would precede the final conference in

Paris to seal a peace treaty between the warring factions in the former Yugoslavia. The Foreign Office expected the the conference to take place at the end of November or early But late on Tuesday night the

French foreign ministry, the Quai D'Orsay, said Mr Rifkind's conference "must be considered as a follow up" to the talks in the US and the Paris

France had "oo objection in principle" to the British idea of such a conference to discuss practical issues of troop de-

Malcolm Riffkind: He may

ployment and reconstruction,

the ministry said. In an aside that will touch sensitive nerves in the British government, the Freoch added that the conference "could take place in the framework of the consultations already under way between the members of the European Union, at the common suggestion of France

and Germany."
Yesterday British officials
hastily conceded that "timetahles were very flexible" and pointed out that the unpredictable nature of the Bosnian peace oegotiations made it impossible to set a date for either conference in Paris or Loodon.

They emphasised that there is agreement among the key countries involved in Bosnia on the oeed for a meeting to resolve outstanding issues likely

to arise after the peace talks.

Mr Rifkind said Nato and the Russians would need to talk about the role, size and duratioo of the oew Peace Implemeotation Force. International institutions would be brought in to discuss humanitarian requiremeots and the cost of

Power of publicity gets Eldin his visa

EMMA DALY Sarajevo

The power of bad publicity should sweep Eldin Isovic, 13, from the Bosnian hospital bed in which he lies to Britain for treatment for the injuries he suf-fered while playing with a grenade. He is blind and has pitifully thin stumps where his hands were and needs reconstructive surgery to his eye sockets as soon as possible, plus the prosthetic hands, physiotherapy and rehabilitation that might ease his burdeo.

The doctors stood ready, the money was there, but Eldin was caught in the British visa trap. The Government insists that Bosnians apply for entry visas at the British Embassy in Zagreh; perhaps coincidentally, it makes denying asylum to Bosnians that much easier, since applicants are already in a third country. Eldin and his father, Esad, could not travel to Zagreb and the embassy in Sarajevo does not issue visas.

But yesterday Eldin and another child, Jadranka Zelenovic, both scheduled for evacuation under a UN-sponsored programme run by Child Advocacy international, were granted exceptional visa waivers by Londoo. As it happeos, Eldin's case was aired on BBC Radio Four's Today programme yesterday and the Sun planned a follow-up campaign. Then came the change of heart.

"I'm told it was at ministerial level that the decision was made," said Dr Michael Pluu-kett of Child Advocacy, "My response is Thank you - and what do we do about the next child we meet that has the same need for treatment?" His agency has seven other Sarajevan children approved by the UN for evacuation to Britain, not all war-wounded, but all in need of specialist treatment unheard of in war-time Bosnia that would significantly improve their quality of life. And all without the means to get a British visa,

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EU demands France come clean on N-tests

SARAH HELM

Risking a head-on clash with Paris, the European Commission last night stepped up pres-sure on Jacques Chirac, the French President, to halt nu-

clear tests in the South Pacific. Amid threats from the European Parliament to sack the Commission if it failed to act, Jacques Santer told the parliament in Strasbourg that the derstood that France has been

President - had voted yesterday to invoke its powers under the Euratom Treaty by sending a letter to the French government demanding more information nn health and safety measures.

Under article 34 of the Euratom Treaty, the Commission has the responsibility to protect the population of member states in case of "a particularly dangerous experiment". It is un-

mission had been denied crucial data from the French govern-ment on the affects of the tesis on geological strata, and that a Commission team had been denied access to key sites.

In theory the Commission's decision yesterday could lead to an action before the European Court of Justice in which France could be held liable for failing "the Commission will adopt an to protect people in the area of opinion in line with the article".

given five days to respond. Mr Santer seep his vow, Santer confirmed that the Comment might simply be a new ploy to buy time. To stave off an immediate confrontation with Mr Chirac, Mr Santer said the Commission would not take a final view on legal action until all the information from Paris had been assessed at a further meeting in Strasbourg on 23 October, when, said Mr Santer,

doubt last night as to the likely response from the European Parliament, should it reduce its pressure on the French government, or dodge a decision to take France to court if all the information is nnt provided.

Addressing the parliament yesterday, Pauline Green, leader of the Socialists, denounced the French tests as "unacceptable, unwarranted and colonialist". She demand-

Up in arms: A Greek shippard worker attacks riot police at the Ministry of Merchant Marine in Piraeus during a protest at a repair yard closure

in January, to maintain the principle of openness. "The credibility of the Commission is on the line," said Mrs Green, who also challenged Mr Santer tn come clean about any private agreement he may have with Mr Chirac not to invoke the Eu-

ratom Treaty. Last week it was

revealed that the French gov-

ances from Mr Santer that the

ernment believed it had as

Commission would not take it to court over the tests. As he addressed the parlia-

ment Mr Santer was clearly aware of the high political stakes involved. Outside the building Greenpeace demonstrators massed, rolling out a dummy bomh. Throughout the week the two French members of the 20-member Commission have been fiercely lobbying in Brussels to prevent the sending of yesterday's letter. However, applies to the tests.

the drive to pressure the French has won the support of commissioners from Germany, Austria, Italy and Scandinavia, Neii Kinnock, the British Transport Commissioner, also supported

the action. There was nn immediate response from Paris, but the next few days are certain to bring a strong rearguard action from the French, who still question whether the Euratom Treaty

Photograph: Yannis Behrakis

Italy's caretaker PM sets out bold vision for political stability

It was the moment of truth that Italy had been anticipating for weeks. On Thesday night, at the end of a five-day trip to the United States, Lamberto Dini addressed a Washington think-tank and outlined the kinds of things he might like to do if parliament asked him to stay in office once he had completed his temporary mandate.

"I was not, and am not, a career politician," the Prime Minister insisted. But the content of his proposals to the Council of Foreign Relations told a very different story. He laid out a seven-point plan for reform intended to revolutinnise the way politics is conducted in Italy and bring real stability to the country for the first time since the

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Yesterday, as he glanced at the Italian newspaper headlines on his way home, it must have been clear that a politician is exactly what he has become. Commentators who have long forecast a political epiphany for Mr Dini excitedly discussed his chances of finding parliamentary support for his programme, and speculated that the general elections initially expected some time before the end of this year might yet be put off until late 1996 or 1997.

Among Mr Dini's proposals were a new electoral law, abolishing the last traces of proportinnal representation in favour of a pure first-past-thepost system, a redefinition of the roles of the two houses of parliament, greater regional autnnomy and an increase in the power of the Prime Minister to control his own cahinet.

All these issues have been widely discussed over the past few months, but no political party has so far produced an overall programme matching the coherence of the Prime Minister's. Yesterday both left and right were forced to concede broad agreement with Mr Dini's aims, although there were signs of discomfort at being upstaged. The centre-left leader Romano Prodi wondered

parliamentary support for his such as the far-right leader Gianfranco Fini said the country needed elections before con-

sidering such weighty issues. In theory, Mr Dini is due to resign in a few weeks once the final plank of his original mandate - a new set of rules on political access to the media - is in place. It will then be np to President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro to reappoint him, appoint someone else or call new elections. The notion of Mr Dini stay-

ing on is not new, but until now it had been assumed that he would merely maintain his nonpolitical caretaker role to see out Italy's term as president of the EU in the first half of next year.

The signs have been building nevertheless of a growing involvement with the nuts and bolts of party politics. His 1996 budget, unveiled last month, bore clear signs of compromise with the left-wing parties which have been supporting him in parliament. At the same time, the lead-

ership of each of the main political coalitions has been thrown into question. On the centre-left, there are fears that Mr Prodi is not tough or telegenic enough to be an effective candidate. On the right, the former prime minister Silvio Beriuscom risks de on trial on charges of tax fraud and might prefer to allow someone else to run in his place.

Among the names being mentioned as possible replacements are Mr Dini himself. and Antonio Di Pietro, the popular former anti-corruption magistrate. Mr Di Pietro launched a series of broadsides this week against Mr Berfusconi in a clear attempt to displace him in the affections of conservative voters. He has yet tn make a clear declaration of political intent, however.

For the past year, Italy has been caught in an awkward paradox without new elections it cannot achieve political stability, but the country needs political stability in order to conduct effective elections. Mr Dini has seen a way of beating the paradox: it remains to be seen if he will be allowed to do so.



Juppé avoids prosecution

STEPHEN JESSEL

aris averted a major French political crisis yesterday by recommending to the Justice Ministry that the Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, should not face a formal investigation into allegations that he abused a former official position to allocate himself a flat owned by the city. But the chief prosecutor,

Bruno Cotte, made it clear that Mr Juppé was open to charges that he had abused his position and that the decision not to proceed with the case was conditional on Mr Juppé vacating the apartment, situated in the rue Jacob in central Paris, by the end of the year. Mr Juppé had already made it known that he would be moving. His son, Laurent, who also rented a cityowned flat at below-market rates, will move as well.

The allegations relate tn Mr Juppé's time as a deputy mayor of Paris, from 1989 to 1993, when he was responsible for finances. This, his political enemies said, included control over its private stock of apartments.

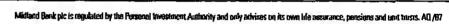
The decision not to proceed, with the case, even though the evidence showed that Mr Juppé, despite earlier denials, had been intimately involved in the allocation of city-owned flats, the fixing of rents and approval of repairs (in his own case costing about £130,000), will end an emharrassing and damaging

If Mr Cotte bad decided to press ahead with an investigation by a magistrate. Mr Juppé The prosecuting authorities in would almost certainly have been obliged to resign. His de parture would have created a serious crisis, for President Jacques Chirac, who was Mayor when Mr Juppe was in charge of finances. The decision not to prosecute comes at time when Mr Juppé is unpopular and his economic policies are

under fire. He had no immediate comment on the decision. The French franc jumped to 3.49 against the German mark, however, after falling to 3.51 earlier amid rumours that the Prime Minister had resigned or been resignation might lead to a reversal of the "strong franc" that has kept French interest rates high.

The property affair, first revealed by the satirical weekly Le Canard Enchaîné, drew to attention the existence of a stock of flats owned by the city of Paris and let to the politically influential and their friends and families at very low rents.

News of the prosecutor's decisinn came as observers were assessing the impact of Tuesday's strike by public sector workers, judged to have at-tracted the highest level of support for such action for more than a decade. Leaders of the seven unions involved are in meet next week to consider what further action to take.







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Bugging scandal topples Estonia coalition

ADRIAN BRIDGE Central Europe Correspondent

The Estnaian government collapsed yesterday in the wake of a hugging scandal that has conjured up chilling reminders of

the country's KGB past. The Vahi, the Prime Minister. announced the effective dissolution of the governing coalition after firing his deputy, Edgar Savisaar, the man at the centre of the scandal.

Last night, Mr Vahi was set to meet President Lennart Meri and other leading politicians in an effort to resolve the crisis, the biggest since the Baltic state al election. Mr Savisaar, whose

regained its independence from Moscow in 1991. The President has promised there will be no

The bugging allegations sur-faced earlier this month when police raided the Tallinn headquarters of a private security firm believed to have dealings with the city's underworld. To their astonishment, the investigators found tapes of recorded private conversations between Mr Vahi, Mr Savisaar and other leading politicians and businessmen during the tense coalition negotiations that fol-lowed Estonia's March gener-

Centre Party ultimately teamed up in government with Mr Vahi's Coalitinn Party and the Rural Union, came under imemerged that the owner of the security firm had been one of his closest advisers.

The allegations caused uproar and demands for Mr Savisaar's removal which, ironically, were stepped up after an assistant to Mr Savisaar claimed that she had ordered the buggings without his knowledge. "Nowithout his knowledge.

Mr Savisaar, who yesterday announced that he was stepping

Interior Minister and leader of his party, served as prime minister from 1990 to 1992. He held mediate suspicion when it a junior post in the old Communist administration, but in the late 1980s became a cofounder of the Estonian Popular Front, which spearheaded the country's drive for independence. Even then critics accused him of bending the law to

suit his own political ends. With the old centre-left governing coalition in tatters, Mr Vahi was said last night to be exploring the possibility of a new alliance. Few favoured the prospect of a fresh poll.

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Blackpool backlash: Nationalist speech on defence angers many and is at odds with Britain's plans for European security

Services enraged by Portillo's EU tirade

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

Michael Portillo's anti-European tirade at the Conservative Party Conference on Tuesday outraged members of the armed forces as well as upposition and European politicians. Ministry of Defence sources

said that they were highly embarrassed by the speech, which was not released to them in advance. "If we could have stopped him, we would have," one MoD source said.

But there is irony in the affair. In spite of Mr Portillo's speech, in which he railed against the control of British forces by "Brussels", Britain has been in the lead in developing a common European defence

The armed forces were livid at what ooe senior officer described as the "prostitution" nf their reputation in search of short-term political gain, a gam-

was likely to hackfire.

Mr Portillo referred to the British Special Air Service, the SAS, as striking "a chill down the spine of the enemy", a reference which caused particular nffence, as Mr Portillo was seen as hijacking a reputation earned by others. He even ended his speech with the SAS mot-to, "Whn dares, wins".

"He might as well have been wearing a pair of Union Jack boxer shorts", another senior officer said.

Mr Portillo said that Britain would oot allow Brussels - by which he appareotly meant the European Unioo rather than Nato - to cootrol its defence policy, and added that "British soldiers, sailors and airmen are willing to give their lives for Britain, not for Brussels".

Yet there has never been a suggestion that the supranational institutions of the EU would be involved in military



Offensive weapon: German members of the Eurocorps, the multinational European defence body, parading in Paris

decisioo-making. Mr Portillo's in the Gulf in 1991, and since speech was irrelevant to 1992 in Bosnia. But although Britain's position on European

Britain has been part of Nato since 1949, and has committed thousands of soldiers to action on behalf of the United Nations,

Britain is playing a leading role in establishing a European defeoce mechanism, there is no chance that the result will be a

defence issues was set out on 1 which are members both of March. The Government Nato (16 countries) and of the launched proposals for treat-EU (15 countries).

ment at next year's European The British proposals involved strengthening the WEU, but not making defence policy Unioo Inter-Governmental Conference, and for a parallel review within the Western Eusubservient to the EU. They Britain's policy on European ropean Union, 10 countries of covered only crisis manage

Photograph: Gamma

ment, peace-keeping, sanctions and humanitarian aid. They did not cover full-scale war, including "peace enforcement", which would remain a preserve of Nato, with US in-



recognises that although Nato would probably be involved in. any large-scale military operations, such as the deploym a peace-implementation force to Bosnia, we should not overstrain that commitment by expecting them to intervene in all European security operations ... there may be circumstances where European nations will need to be ready to take the lead, or to act on their own."

The Government's policy, set out in its March memorandum and in the last defence White Paper, is that it would be "wasteful to develop separate, wholly European military struc-tures. Europe should capitalise on the foundation that has been built in Nato".

The White Paper stresses that European defence structures should "encourage and allow flexibility rather than trying to impose undue conformity", showing awareness of the need to avoid situations of the kind imagined by Mr Portillo, when olvement. he said that cap badges might
The Government's policy be controlled by Brussels.

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Where Portillo is coming from

This is what President of the European Commission, This is what President of the European Commission, Jacques Santes, called "tilting at windmills" — a problem that is not there, and a grotesque thisrepresentation of the true picture. By Brissels, Mr Portille means the European Dajon and the Idea that the sapranational EU institutions would have say direct central procitie British armed forces is called winds at least that the sapranational EU institutions would have say direct central procities British armed forces is called a say at least the first process counter to British policy "as set for the first this year, he other country is suggesting it and it is not on the agender of any EU body. Belliain has led the way with new house on how to bolster European security, a fact that Mr Portillo chose to ignore in his speech, it has proposed that Europe should shoulder

his speech, it has proposed that Europe should shoulder more of the responsibility for its own security — and the rest of Europe seems to agree.

Although Nato— with Morth American involvement — would be involved intary large scale operation, there may be circumstances with European countries will need to be ready to take the lead, or to act on their own. But Britain will retain command of its own forces, though their actions would be co-ordinated with others through the Western European Union, British troops remain under command of British officers and the British government at all times.

Planet Portilla

*Imagine: the European Commission might want to harmonise uniforms and cap badges. Or even to metricate them. The European Court would probably want to stop our men fighting for more than 40 hours a week. They would send half of them home on paternity leave."

If Mr Portific had ever served in the armed forces, he would know that they, along with their Nato allies, have been using the metric system for decades. The armed forces are exempt from the other legislation he describes. as they are from every provision of the EU's founding

We taught the Bosnian Serb generals that the slaughter of civilians will not go unpunished.

ot Earth Up to a point. For most of Britain's three years in Bosnia, K has avoided direct action to save Bosnian civilians, and strenuously avoided intervening on one side or the other. Although troops have been robust in their interpretation of the rules of engagement, they have been under orders to deterid themselves, not local civilians. Until the recent Natio austrikes, massacres in Srebrenica and Gorazde went unipunished.

Placet Portitio

"Around the world three letters send a chill down the spine of the enemy: SAS. And those letters spell out a clear message: don't mess with Britain."

Planet Earth

This statement caused fury in the armed forces yesterday. Many asked whether it was statesmanlike to call on the blood, sweat and bravery of others as propaganda at a party conference...

Planet Portillo

"Next week, I shall announce a new strike force drawn from the three services, capable of rapid and long-range

Planet Earth

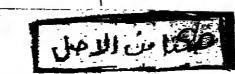
Malcolm Rifkind, the former Secretary of State for Defence, announced the formation of a "Joint Rapid De-ployment force" on 14 July 1994. This comprises 3 Com-mando Brigade; 5 Airborne Brigade and 24 Airmobile Brigade. There is nothing new about this force: as Mr Riffend said: "We shall be looking at how we can develop the capabilities of these forces to enable them to Intervene even more effectively and speedily together."

Planet Portillo

Two recent orders underline that resolve [to give the armed forces the best equipment]: Apache Attack hell-copters ... and Tomahawk cruise missiles, a weapon so accurate that it can be launched from a submarine 1,000 miles away and guided down a single chimney..."

Planet Earth

On 19 September the White House confirmed that Britain was buying 65 cruise missiles. The Ministry of was buying on cruise missies. The ministry of Defence never confirmed the order – perhaps Mr Portillo wanted to keep the news for the party conference. But can the Tomahawks be guided down a single chimney? Their accuracy is six metres – they'll probably hit the right house, sure, but down the chimney? Unlikely, However, that is more accurate than Mr Portillo can claim to be.



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Gulf maids in slavery to a reign of terror



Robert Fisk, Middle East Correspondent, details the rape, torture and contempt suffered by foreign servants at the hands of their employers

A glance through the archives of the Gulf newspapers is enough to show you what Filipina and Sri Lankan maids suffer at the hands of their Arab employers - quite apart from the judicial lashings so many receive from "Islamic" courts.

Beaten, burnt and sexually assaulted, they turn up in their dozens each year at their embassies in Rivadh, Kuwait City and Abu Dhabi to plead for sanctuary from their tormentors and a free passage home. One Arab Gulf state had to charter airliners to take home Indian and Filipina maids after they complained of rape and beat-ings by their employers.

Many employers defend their treatment by contending that the maids - generally hired for hassy in Abu Dhabi after her speaking English and accepting employer beat her oo her back

low wages - steal, torment children, commit "immoral" activities, or desert their jobs. Last June, a Filipina maid, Nelfa Baltar, secured the conviction of her Egyptian em-

ployers in Abu Dhabi after she had been burned with cigarettes on her hands and face and with a lighted match below her eyes. The police arrested her sponsor, Ayman Mansour, when he tried to deport her through the airport in the emirate of Sharjah; immigration officers found that the girl's face had been beaten so hadly that they could not recognise her in her passport photograph. In March 1994, Felixberta

Pasco, a 32-year-old Filipina housemaid, fled to her em-

and face, and cut ber arms. Two Asian housemaid in Duhai slashed her wrists in a suicide attempt after a local man tried to rape her. A day after that, police in Abu Dhabi used a crane to rescue Nora Saburnido a 35year-old housemaid, from an upper window after she was heard screaming in a locked room at her employer's home. They found she had been hurned on both arms with an electric iron, knifed in the left

months later, a 28-year-old employees have reported to human rights groups the systematic harassment of Asian housemaids by sponsors and by members of the muttawa: the ruthless religious police who are being given ever wider powers to arrest and molest women. One report recounts how in 1993 a Filipina nurse who spoke

casnally to a male restaurant was arrested by the muttawa, held for two days in arm and beaten on the right eye. prison and then ordered to



In Saudi Arabia, Western sign a statement in Arabic employees have reported to which she did not understand. It was a confession of prostitution. In July of the same year, she was taken to a Saudi prison and lashed 40 times by a male prison officer in the presence of laughing miattawa officials. . .

Inside the Malaz prison in Saudi Arabia, a Western nurse,
-falsely accused of trying to "soduce" US soldiers on the streets acquaintance in a Riyadh of Riyadh - found almost 100. women from the Philippines and Sri Lankz. Their bunks were infested with lice, and the women were sometimes left for hours in total darkness.
"We heard some pitting stories,"
the stories wrote to the numer
rights group which to dain his case. Many of the prisoners were domestic helpers who were raped or otherwise abused.

by [Saudi] employers; if they at-. inputed to run away or became pregnant, they were jailed and. Ometimes lashed."
These terrible cases have

been occurring for at least five-years. In November 1992, a Sri Lankan housemand fled to her embassy in Abu Dhabi after a local housewife had heated a

Battered maid tells of five-month orde Housema tells coul Filipina maid of beating seeks justice I was beaten and burned, says maid Jail for Filipina maid's tormentors

tenderiont: Galf in temperary regular reports of the abuse of servants Mends Front: Call Wideshers

knife on a gas cooker and
burnes her on the neck, body
and arms for breaking a plate.

She had been whipped by the
historical to the family when she
demanded to beare, britished in
the chest by the wife for lapses
in her work and fortistraps
from the kitchen ar the same
month, a Muslim Fringia maid

was having a baby, then slapped and beaten by the wife for allegedly seducing the husband. In the last six months of 1992, four maids tried to commit suicide in the United Arab Emi-

Why do so many Filipinas and Sri Lankans suffer so dreadfully at the hands of Gulf Arab employers? One need only read what the Gulf Arabs think of them. Take, for example, last year's study by the Dubai Police Research and Studies Centre which accused foreign bousemaids of theft, torture of children, immorality and desertion. Referring to maids as "walking time bombs", the report claimed that 39.2 per cent were thieves, 35.3 per cent were cruel to children and 22.5 per cent "committed immoral activities".

Sixty-six oot of 120 local housewives were the victims of crime by the maids, the report concluded. It stated that one maid had set fire to a two-yearold child, that another had put a baby in a refrigerator to stop it crying, that a third had put a baby in a washing machine in an

attempt to kill it. "You shouldn't take such a Christian - such a Western point of view about these women," a friend of an Islamic court judge told me in Sharjah. "These maids will get fair treatment if journalists don't exaggerate the trials - if you don't make this into a political circus."

complained that she was raped. And then, in a lower voice and by her employer while his wife with a venom that destroyed everything he had said, the man explained himself. "Filipinos as a people are very emotional, they are big liars. They try to extract pity. They are never to be trusted. When it comes to crime - 70 per cent of

them are guilty."
So why, I wondered, do the Gulf Arabs employ well over one and a half million Filipinos? "Because they are clean and because they speak English and can educate Gulf children," he replied matter-offactly. What he did not choose to address were the hundreds thousands, in the view of human rights groups - of housemaids who are raped and sexually abused in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states.

What is one to make, for instance, of the Sri Lankan maid who had been sexually molested by her Saudi employer six months ago and, put on board an aircraft home at Dubai airport, spent the journey cringeing in her seat and weeping?

Or the even more dreadful case of the housemaid who had heen so badly raped by a Saudi that, boarding the Emlrates Airlines plane home at Dubai, she cowered beneath one of the aircraft scars and screamed every time she saw a

male passenger? The European air crew decided she was too mentally disturbed to fly and, with great reluctance, off-boarded her before the plane took off.

Blood money may avert execution for Filipina

Abu Dhabi (Reuter) - The son al-Ain for the premeditated dropping his demand for her execution if the girl's family asks him to show mercy. "If the parents come and ask me to drop the death sentence, maybe I will consider it and the famiy would discuss it," Faraj al-Baloushi said. "I would consider changing it. We would discuss

the request between us."
His remarks were the first sign that the Baloushi family might be willing to soften its stand since an Islamic court last month condemned Balabagan to death in the oasis city of

of a man killed by Sarah Bal- murder of Almas Mohammed yesterday he would consider ic law, Baloushl's family has the option to maintain the death sentence or to accept blood money instead. Balabagan said she stabbed Baloushi 34 times after wresting his knife away during what she said was rape.

Faraj al-Baloushi has rejected previous overtures aimed at saving Balabagan's life and insisted that she should face execution. But officials in the United Arab Emirates have said they would again try to persuade the family to drop their demand for the death sentence in exchange for blood money.

IN BRIEF

Patten promises curb on foreign workers Hong Kong — The Governor of Hong Kong, Chris Patten, has extended an olive hranch to the colony's first fully elected legislature by promising to curb the import of foreign workers from next year. Relations with China, which takes over Hong Kong in mid-1997, took a back seat to domestic issues in the

Governor's two-bour annual policy address. Mr Patten proposed a new labour scheme, to start on I January 1996, that would allow for a maximum of 5,000 foreigners employed under the programme to be working in the colony at any one time, compared with 25,000 now.

Reuter

Indonesian gangs go on rampage

Dili, East Timor — The East Timorese Governor. Ahilio Soares, has urged Indonesia's security forces to restore order after gangs of youths rampaged through the capital in the worst unrest in the territory this year. Residents said that youths armed with knives, bamboo sticks and stones continued to gather in several places around the city, after two days of violence, but said that there had been no reports of any further clashes since early

White rule draws its last breath

Cape Town — South Africa's parliament is holding a two-day special session to put hack on track local government elections which will wipe away the last vestiges of white rule. The I November elections, the first all-race local polls since apartheid was imposed in 1948, were put in jeopardy by a Constitutional Court ruling last month which overturned the proclamations by President Nelson Mandela which set up various electoral mechanisms. In four days of talks, ending late on Tuesday, legislators thrashed out a rescue package which shifts crucial powers from the province to the central government.

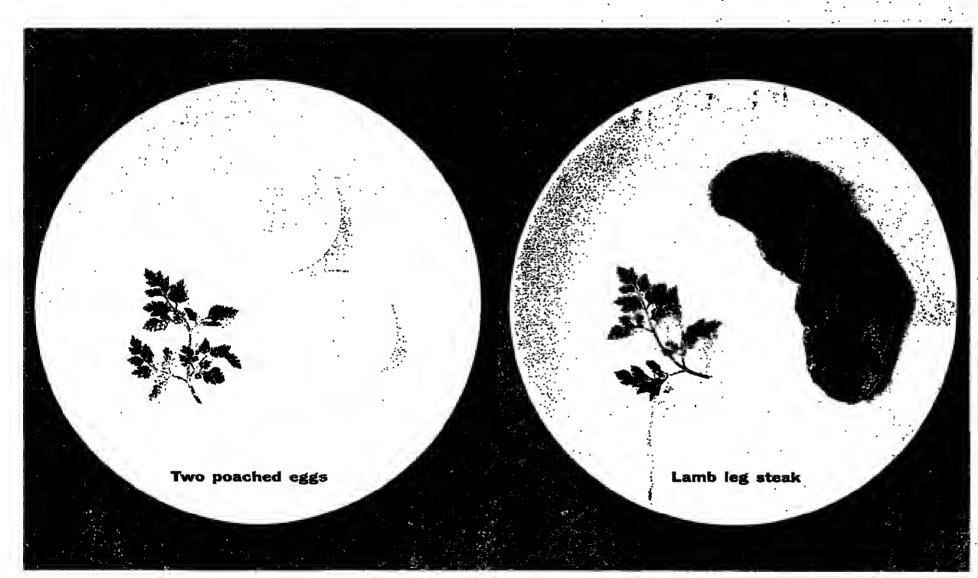
Japan apologises for HIV blood supply

Tokyo — The Japanese government has formally apologised to haemophiliaes who contracted the HIV virus from imported blood products, six years after patients first filed suit against drug firms and the government. It said that delayed government measures had increased the number of victims, 91 of whom have already died after developing Aids.

No ducking the issue for radio ham

Canberra — An Australian man has been fined 2,titil Australian dollars (£990) for quacking like a duck on his radio transmitter, a court official in the Tasmanian town of Launceston said. Don Desmond Davey, 57, was convicted on Thesday for broadcasting something that was not speech, the official said. Davey pleaded guilty to 16 charges over the operation and possession of unlicensed radio communications equipment, and was also ordered

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Saddam's germ war Filipina ma plan sparks Leeks just UN fury MICHAEL SHERIDAN

Diplomatic Editor

Iraq is certain to face indefinite United Nations sanctions after a devastating report yesterday revealed it may still he holding enough hiological weapons to kill the world's population several time over.

The head of the UN Special Commission, Rolf Ekeus, told the Security Council that President Saddam Hussein's regime had concealed vast amounts of data oo its chemical, hiological and ouclear programmes for years after the Gulf war of 1991.

The oew information only came to light after the defection to Jordan in August of President Saddam's son-in-law, Hussein Kamal Hassan, head of lraq's military industrial complex.

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B 5-

- j. k.

14.40

The revelations are likely to put an end to pressure from Russia and France to ease UN sanctions oo Iraq when the issue next comes up for consideration around 15 November.

"Iraq had made a formal but essentially false declaration of its biological weapons," Mr Ekeus said.

The extent of Baghdad's biological weapons programme had not hitherto been made available to the Security Council. It is understood to include the discovery that Iraqi scientists made 10 times as much anthrax virus thao they had declared to UN weapons inspectors. They also were researching botulism, which causes paralysis, and alfatoxin, a carcinogen which triggers

kidney and liver failure. Among other biological compounds in the Iraqi arsenal were ricin, which damages the lungs, and enterovirus, a cause of blindness and haemorrhage. Mr Ekeus told the Security Council that there was no proof that Iraq had destroyed any of

these weapons.

The US ambassador to the UN, Madeleine Albright, has described the oew findings as "chilling". A British official said they showed that "the Iraqis have made a nonsense" of previous UN efforts to investigate their noo-conventional weapons.

The oew information about Iraq's weapons programmes will change the climate in the UN Security Council over the future of UN sanctions on the country. There is evidence that sanctions are causing intense suffering to ordinary Iraqis. A senior UN official recently said a generation of children was at risk from malnotrition.

The US and Britain, the toughest advocates of continued sanctions, say President Saddam has refused to take advantage of a UN resolution allowing himited oil sales to provide funds for humanitarian oceds. In private, many Arab govern-ments favour keeping sauctions to maintain pressure on the Baghdad regime and encourage its eventual demise.

In another sign of instability within the regime, Iraqi opposition activists have announced the defection to Britain of an official who was President Saddam's head of protocol.

But there will be embarrassment for Britain and other European countries in future revelations about the involvement of Western businesses in supplying Iraq with resources for chemical research. A Bedford company, Oxoid, is to be sued by US armed forces personnel who allege the company riegligently sold Iraq up to 18 tons of special "growth media"



A Baghdad van driver displaying pictures of President Saddam in advance of a presidential referendum on 15 November, the first since 1958

Tidal wave of crime sweeps Iraq

head of the Department of An-

Said said he has neither the men

nor the vehicles to defend them

all. Outside his office Range

There are 10,000 archaeo-

tiquities in Baghdad.

PÁTRICK COCKBURN Baghdad

Early this summer Khader al-Doori, former president of Baghdad University, returned home one afternoon in his large Japanese-made saloon car. A gang of car thieves which specialised in expensive vehicles was waiting for him, and shot him dead.

Douri's killers were caught and their trial shown on television, but car theft is so common in Iraq that the police rarely bother follow it up. The Unit-ed Nations in Baghdad has had four vehicles stolen in the past year, mostly at gimpoint. Many drivers believe the best insur-

ance against losing cars is to hire street gangs to guard them.
Iraq used to have little crime.

Punishments were heavy, and during the oil boom it was easy to make money. But the UN embargo on the sale of oil since 1990 means 4 million are now close to starvation, and the rest live from hand to mouth. Even the amputation of the thieves' hands is no deterrent.

Crime is not only violent hut highly organised. In June armed men broke into a museum at Assur, the ancient Assyrian capital in northern Iraq. After overpowering three guards they stole 168 objects, including large statues.

I can do very little to stop

Rovers sit immobilised on tyres that went flat a long time ago and cannot be replaced.

"Thieves killed a guard at the museum in Nassariya in the south," he said. "So I have given orders for our men to shoot back in future." There are oo published fig-

ures on the crime rate. Abdul

them," said Dr Moaid Said, any war because of poverty and hunger. Many gangs were punished and the stealing of cars is going down." Mr Janabi said logical sites in Iraq and Dr UN sanctions, oot the Iraqi government, is to hlame for the

crime wave. Few believe the government has got violence under control. An example is the sudden popularity of guard dogs. Every Friday huge mastiffs go oo sale in the part of the Shurjah market that used to deal in pets.

Violent crime is only one aspect of the breakdown of society under the impact of sanctions and hyper-inflation. Kader al-Janabi, a member of the Makeral Assembly, said: ment officials are not allowed to resign but are often paid the

equivalent of \$5 a mooth. Ooe university professor told how he spent two years trying to resign and only succeeded this summer after bribing hospital doctors "to say I have a serious heart condition". His pension is worth

Another sign of the disaster facing the educated élite is the book market in the Soug al-Sarrai. Every few yards intellectuals are selling old volumes. A copy of Plutarch's Lives fetches less than 10p. One seller said he is giving up all his books to buy food, with the exception of his favourite, Dostoyevsky. Auother said that whatever happened he would never sell the works of James Joyce.

about 50p a month.

Sony senses a market in ESP

RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

After persuading the world to retreat into the private universe of the Walkman, Sony is going one step further; it has disclosed that it is branching out into the paranormal. The Japanese corporation, the leading innovator in consumer electronics, admits it is rescarching into alternative medicine, spoon-bending, X-ray vision, telepathy and other forms of extra-sensory perception (ESP).

The Sony "Institute of Wisdom" was founded in 1989 at the instigation of the company's founder, Masaharu Ibuka, and Akio Morita, its charismatic former chairman. The company believes it has proved the existeoce of ESP, and is considering the possibility of machines that would enable us to communicate telepathically - the Sony Spookman, as it is

likely to be known.

"Mr Ibuka and Mr Morita have long felt that there's more to science and technology than what is repeatable, universal and objective," a spokeswoman said. Some people have the ability to perceive beyond the five senses. This research is intended to investigate how this happens and why.

A sub-division of the Institute. Extra-Sensory Perception Excitation Research (Esper), has worked with more than 100 possessors of ESP. Subjects were presented with two hlack plastic containers, one of them containing platioum, the other empty. Psychic individuals were able to "see" the platinum seven times out of 10. Much of the research focuses on the mysterious spiritual energy known as ki, which forms the basis of a great deal of traditional oriental medicine.

The company has already devised one product, the Pulse Graph, based on a prototype developed by a South Korean holistic doctor. It is claimed to have a 20 to 30 per cent successrate in diagnosing diseases such as liver cancer.

Rebel attacks the Len Kabul

TIM McGIRK Islamabad

Taliban, the Islamic student militia, fought its way closer to Kahul yesterday, capturing several strategic positions in the hills outside the battered

Afghao capital.

The Taliban studeots are no longer armed only with the Koran. Supported by tanks, artillery and recegade fighter-pilots flying MiGs, they have spread Islamic rule over the southern half of the war-weary country. They have vowed to lay siege to Kahul, if President Burhanuddin Rabbani does not

step down. Foreign aid ageocies in Kabul say the Taliban has seized two key positions, Charasiah and the Kaldabad hills, over the past two days. These new Taliban outposts are only 12 miles south of Kabul, enabling the militia to strike the capital with rockets, a fate Kabul's citizens have endured several times over the past three years of fighting between gov-ernment forces and rebels.

After pin-pointing the Tal-iban's new strongholds with reconnaissance flights two days ago, the government struck back yesterday with a barrage of rockets on the attackers. An aid worker said: "It sounded like a thousand rockets were fired into the hills south of Kabul." The Taliban is advancing along the southern route from Mohamed Agha, but will soon run into a ring of artillery and tank defences around Kabul.
"So far, Kabul's been quiet.

No rockets have fallen on the city yet, but it sounds like there's plenty of fighting outside, and it's getting closer," a relief worker said. Residents of the shattered city have rarely experieoced a mooth without rocket attacks, so the Taliban's advance has not yet caused panic. "It's probably safer if people remain in Kahul, at least until they know who controls the surrounding countryside," the relief worker added.



The second secon

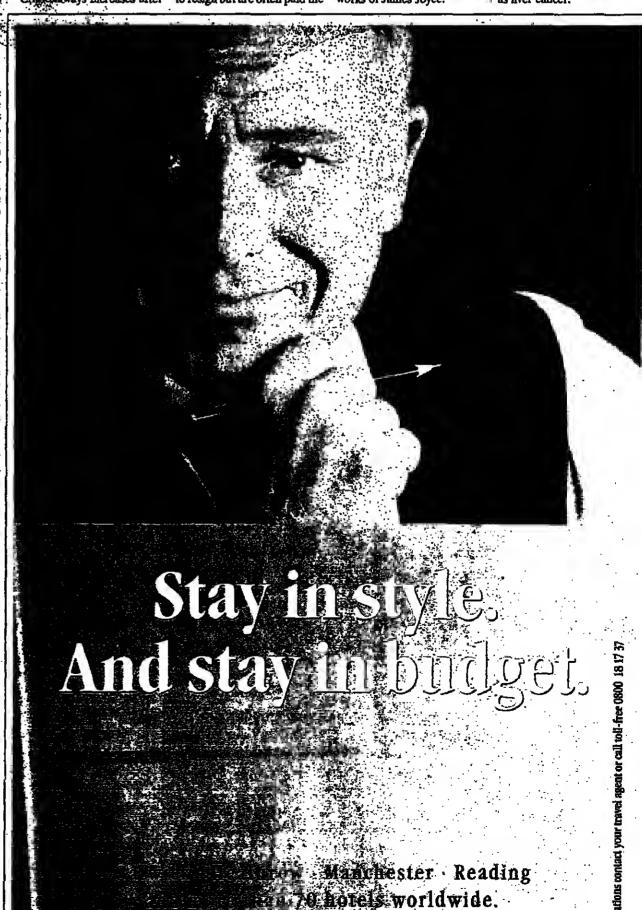
Rabbani: has ringed Kabul with defences

The assault is the Taliban's second on Kabul. The militia was within a few miles of the capital last spring, but was routed by government forces under the acting defence minister, Ahmed Shah Masood. The odds have shifted since then. Although the Taliban earlier refused to deal with any of the warring regional commanders who have splintered the coun-

try following the defeat of the pro-Soviet regime in 1992, the islamic strike at now have pacts with all Mr Rabbani's enemies, including "First Communist general, Rashid Dostum. From his fortiess headquarters over the porthern Ligher border. the oorthern Uzbek border, General Dostum reportedly is ready to hurl his Russian-made fighter planes into the Taliban siege of Kabul.

The government also accuses Pakistan of supplying the Taliban with military advisers and weapons. Pakistan wants to open a trade route through Afghanistan into the new Central Asian republics.

On 5 September the Taliban overran the eastern city of Herat, held by a Rabbani ally. Herat's warlord paid his militiamen only £3 a month, and they surrendered rather than fight the Taliban. Kabul may not fall so fast.Government troops are better paid, loyal and heavily armed. Past experience shows they have no qualins about fir-ing on Koran-wielding warriors.





"All that is needed for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing." Edmund Burke.

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL WEEK 15 - 22 OCTOBER



Hungry children in a Nigerian slum, but life is 'not too bad'

You can catch a glimpse of the slums from the motorways that bisect Lagos: clustered at the edge of a lagoon or spreading like a stain over waste ground, thousands of shacks with rusty roofs. But you do not really know what the slums are like until you are among the houses, a Nigerian friend said as we drove through town.

I was invited to Amukoko by Sister Patricia Hoey, a petite Irish missionary nun who has been working in Nigeria for three decades. For the past few years she has been running a health clinic in the heart of Amukoko, which is built on reclaimed marshland.

An estimated one million people live in Amukoko. They are among the poorest in Lagos, but are not the worst off: they have homes, some have jobs, they even have a couple of

broken-down schools.
When it rains, the canals and open drains overflow. The smell of sewage around the Medical Missionaries of Mary compound was strong but the nuns said they only noticed it when it got really hot. "These people wouldn't live here if they had anywhere else 10 go," said Sister Patricia. "They come from every state in Nigeria and every country in West Africa. There's a dozen to a small room. not much of what you'd call 'social cohesion'. They're drawn by cause my husband has a joh with

LAGOS DAYS

the prospect of work and more a shipping company," said Mrs Nwokocha. "I take the kids to are coming all the time." It would make more sense if the nuns every morning for a I were to meet some of the residents, she suggested. Yemi Akintimehin, a 33-year-old health worker who grew up here, would take me along on one of her home visits to a slum

meal. We eat again in the evening when my husband Here is how their money 2,000 naira a month (£16) Rent is 500 naira a month. So there where people walked in mud. is 1,500 naira for food, transport, medicines and other necessities. the roads were strewn with refuse and there were waist-high piles of rubbish. Mrs Nwokocha says she is hap-

'Sex is a commodity here', said the Irish nun. 'They sell their bodies to get their kids through school'

Josephine Nwokocha, the object of the visit, lives in a room with her husband and six chil-dren. Under the same roof, on either side of a dank corridor which runs the length of a typ-ical single-storey hoarding house, are 21 other families. They share a single latrine. But the Nwokochas consider themselves lucky; some families live

Things aren't too bad be-

pier here than in her village in

south-east Nigeria.
All of her children are under six. She has a set of twins. I learnt later that she probably had to leave her village as twins are considered evil, unnatural, and their mothers are often cast out for witchcraft.

"This child", said Ms Akin-timehin, pointing to the baby at Mrs Nwokocha's breast, "is not

kids are malnourished." The situation should improve, howev-er, when Mrs Nwokocha gets the market stall she has long coveted. She has been accepted into a scheme run by the nuns to set up women in petty trading: old clothes, bottles or simple foodstuffs. She will have

to pay rent for her pitch. We make our way through the smoke-filled corridor works out: Mr Nwokocha earns some families are cooking on charcoal stoves - and into the mire of the street. Ms Akintimehin points out the local sights: a school with no windows and 9,000 pupils and, next door, the Sambot Hotel, which is a brothel.

"Like everything else here, sex is a commodity", said Sister Patricia. "There's lots of prostitution. Sometimes you couldn't call it that. They sell their bod-ies to get kids through school."

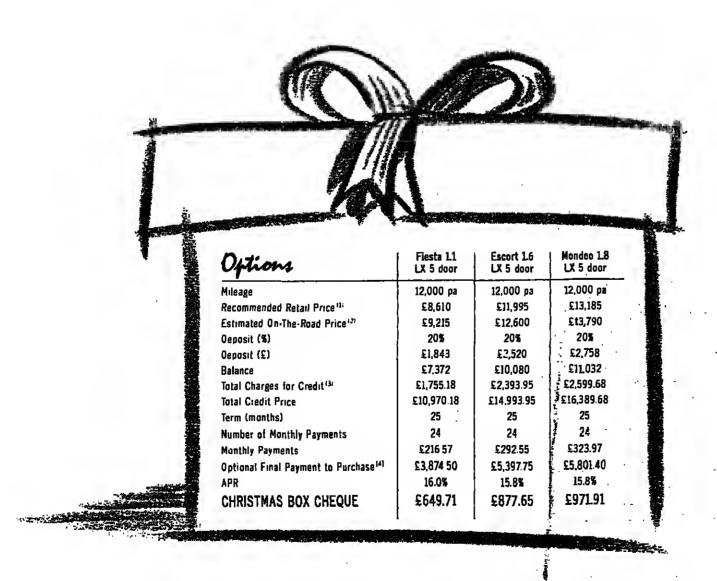
The nuns - two Nigerian and two Irish - run a leadership course which deals with everything from inter-personal to community relations. They try to encourage basic social analy-sis: why are the streets so filthy, how come no one makes an effort to clean them, why is there no civic spirit?

Does it improve things? Not much, they reply with a smile _



Caring: Health worker Yemt Akintimehin tends one of Josephine Nwokocha's six children

An early Christmas box from Ford



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Washington rally could stir radical black revival

Next week's Million Man March of black males is causing apprehension among whites has not given black staff the day and uncertainty among African-Americans. One result, however, seems surer a much bigger role in the country's fraught civ-il rights debate for the march's Mr Clinton plans a major prime organiser, Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam and de facto leader of the

radical black movement. Only a humiliatingly low turnout stands between Mr Farrakhan and success. But even if to its declared goal of "atonethe march fails to live precise- ment", or will it turn into a gily up to its name, charter plane ant protest, birth of a new black and bus bookings across the country suggest it may top the 250,000 who took part in Dr Martin Luther King's celebrat-ed March on Washington in 1963 - and possibly the esti-mated 600,000 who attended the biggest anti-Vietnam War rally here in November 1969.

But the question which dominates the uneasy run-up to Monday's big event is another: whether the Farrakhan on show will be the militant of old, best known for snarling rhetoric, frequent anti-Semitism, and thinly veiled contempt for women's and gay rights - or a teader capabte of channelling black America's grievances and frustrations to productive ends.
Hence the amhivalence

about the occasion, from the White House down. President Bill Clinton has no quarrel with many of Mr Farrakhan's goals; to tackle black America's crime, drugs and broken families headon. The problem lies with the messenger, as Mike McCurry, the President's spokesman

made brutally clear, describing some of Mr Farrakhan's past statements as "bordering on the

off to attend. And as Washington city officials braced for a day of massive disruption, aides speech on frayed US race relations very soon, perhaps at a long-scheduled appearance in Dallas on Monday itself.

And imponderables abound: Will the march remain faithful militancy in the image of Mr Farrakhan? What will be the chemistry with the OJ Simpson affair? And, not least, who will attend?

One person who definitely will not be there is General Colin Powell, author and possible presidential candidate, who has pleaded previously scheduled engagements to promote his book. But his absence is hardly surprising; in political terms Mr Powell counts as a white, as a remarkable poll this week underlined. Among whites, Gen-eral Powell leads Mr Clinton 54-37 in a theoretical presidential contest. Among blacks,

Mr Clinton wins 68-25 Given the media frenzy that would ensue, speculation that the freshly acquitted OJ will show up seems excessive. More plausible is the presence of his chief defence attorney, Johnnie Cochran, the new hero of hlack America, who was wont to arrive at court in Los Angeles recently surrounded by Nation of Islam bodyguards.

King 'stole \$350,000 in Lloyds' fraud'

DAVID USBORNE

Don King, the controversial promoter of heavyweight boxer Mike Tyson, is expected to take the stand in a New York court today to answer allegations that he stole \$350,000 from Lloyds of London in a bogus insurance claim.

Prosecutors have charged Mr King with nine counts of insurance frand arising from a 1991 fight featuring super lightweight champion, Julio Cesar Chavez, that was cancelled after the boxer injured his nose in training, Each count carries a maximum penalty of five years in jail and a fine of \$250,000.

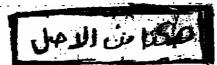
Mr King is accused of padding his claim to Lloyds with an additional \$350,000 in losses which prosecutors say were never actually incurred. US attomey Paul Gardephe said "this number was simply made up by

Specifically, Mr King is accused of doctoring the original contract documents signed with Lloyds to insert a rider pur-



in court: Don King, the U. boxing promoter

porting that Chavez was paid the \$350,000 in the run-up to the fight, a high-winnings bout against Harold Brazier in Las Vegas, as a "non-refundable" training fee. The prosecution has promised Chavez will tell the court that he never actually received any such payment. Mr King was paid a total of \$671,000 for the loss of the match. His defence has rejected the allegations and says that in any event the promoter had no responsibility for the day-today financial running of his



Chris Woodhead, Her

Inspector of schools

A vision of the curriculum

and a real personal sense

of appropriate standards.

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improvement and a sense

Louise Woolcock, first

female joint head of

They need to be aware

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the school to present

and prospective parents.

A good headteacher has

that their students are

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David Blunkett.

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King's School,

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Dr John Moore, head of

The ability to listen. To

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teachers in raising

The strength of personality

Majesty's chief

Gillian Shephard has announced a new qualification for headteachers. Fran Abrams and Judith Judd examine a vital role

Yes, headmaster, it's all down to you

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the successful appacant was be asia to continuous with children, lest using those with behavioural and learning difficulties, perents and teachers. S/ha will be running a successful but tightly stratched business, so management and flaencial acumen is prucial. Boundless energy is assential to

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school and community.

An Equal Opp

There is a word that aspiring headteachers of the Nineties should hold in their minds and repeat like a mantra

in the interview room: vision. The first question will be: "What do you want to do for this school?" The required answer begins: "My vision for Grindthorpe High ..."
In the old days, a head-

teacher was like a despot sometimes enlightened, sometimes not - in a small, independent state. Nowadays he sometimes she, hut usually not is more like a football manager. Charisma, authority, even evangelism are essential quali-ties in the modern head. But if the school begins to slip down the league table, then his neck will be on the block.

Yesterday Gillian Shephard put the role of the headteacher at the centre of her education policy. A good head, she said. was the key to a successful school, and professional recognition would do much to raise standards in schools. Her plan for headteacher qualifications has won praise from across the political spectrum - not least from Labour, which announced an identical scheme four months ago.

But why is a head's role so important? As Mrs Shephard said, no enterprise can succeed without leadership, and research has shown time and time again that it is vital in education. A good headteacher inspires and motivates staff and pupils while keeping a firm eye on the school's ultimate goal: raising standards. School inspectors have found a strong link between failing schools and weak leadership.

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The Government has already launched Headlamp, a scheme under which new heads are given £2,500 to spend on the training of their choice. They may learn fmancial management, crisis management and the management of change, the curriculum and

pastoral matters. Such training has been on offer for 20 years but it has been patchy. Heads have attended courses at management centres and those organised by the Industrial Society. Some have even done MBAs to prove their management abilities.

Armed with these skills, new recruits must return to school to win over their staff. A prime example of vision and charisma going awry was set by Michael Clark, employed to improve Wandsworth's failing Battersea Technology College. Nothing if not evangelical, he departed in January after alienating staff by suggesting that they were either

for him or against him. The successful head will set an example to the school. Above all, he or she must be able to focus strongly on what matters most: on standards of teaching support.

What makes a good headteacher?

Fay Weldon, author She or he has to be a goed manager - a chief executive rather than a leader, Headteachers had to do so much form filling and paperwork. She or he should be should be children look up to and respect who can teach them the ways of the world. A good headfeacher

Mary Warnock, former mistress of Cirtin College, Cupit des Good judgement 1758 shouldn't do arrive slily. Liking one's profis very important. My am as headleacher was filled my pupils very pupils and older? The the older members of staff at all 1 think one has to be very clear-headed and cool.

is a good person!

Will Carling, England rugby captain and management. consultant

The ability to let each individual under his/her charge flourish. That means teachers and pupils.

David Smith, head of Bradford Grammar School tie has got to like children more than

anything. That's about it. Let everytood take talk about dynapic leadership, and management.

CAPALLY STATE and learning. Five years ago it would have been unusual for a head to spend time watching staff work, but inspections and appraisals have changed that. Now the classroom door is never

really closed. But being a headteacher is not just about leading - it is also about inspiring. Here another fashionable word comes into play: empowerment. The best headteachers make their staff feel that they can have ideas of their own and that if they take calculated risks they will receive Rosanne Randle, head of Dame Alice Harpur

cally

School, Bedford Vision. But it's no longer about inspirational legitership. Jeam Readership is what

A personal touch is importent - something, according to Professor Michael Barber of London's Institute of Education, that women heads display more than men. One head he met sent a card to every former member of staff on their first day in a new job, saying: "Good Inck and thanks for everything

you did for us." People remember that kind of thing - it really matters," he

Being a head is not only about cards, however. There will be hard decisions to make. to say a foolish one, who never

Tony Mooney, head of Rutlish, John Major's old school)

Patience, sense of humour and an understanding of .. people. They must keep up are his greatest resource. to date in developments in teaching and must talk to ." teachers and encourage people learn from their them in what they're doing. He or she must be

critical friend. While the leachers will mutter

in the staff room about one of their number who is lazy and incompetent, they will unite against the head who tries to have him or her replaced. The first year or so will fly by in a whiri of new initiatives.

While these will be in place by the second year, few improve-ments may yet be visible. This is the time when a good head-teacher keeps faith, and constantly tells the rest of the school: "It will work. Give it time." It would be a very strong head, not Peter Hullah, head of Chetham's School of Music, Manchester

Someone who likes : people and realises they . Who is good at listening and understanding that mistakes ...

had doubts. But the key to suctheir relations with their govcess is never to show them. erning body.

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Raiph Uliman, head of

Someone with a clear

Wellingborough College

sense of direction who is

good at persuading other

people that the things you

want them to do are the

things they want to do.

Heads today must perform a The staff will not be the only delicate balancing act at all ories whose spirits need boltimes between the demands of stering from time to time. In staff, pupils, parents and gov-ernors. The demands of their 1993 the Government gave school governors the role and spouses and children will genduties of employers, and hence they now play a much bigger erally take fifth and sixth place part in the running of the school than they used to. While in their attentions - the job usually begins at around 7.45am and continues until nine or 10 some heads can wrap their govemors round their fingers, othat night, when the governors' meeting, parents' evening or school play finishes. ers have more trouble. The Secondary Heads Association takes about six calls a day from And although many head-

teachers talk of the occasional

joys the joh brings - the success of an initially unpromising pupil, the school production

manager syndrome", people's tendency to seek a scapegoal when things go wrong, but many have genuinely fallen ill through

which goes without a hitch more dwell upon its stresses and strains. Most heads now are appointed in their late thirties or early forties, and an increasing number are taking early retirement in their fifties on health grounds. Some of those who go are victims of "football

sure that good headteachers ge: even better? How can we give bad heads the kick-start they need to improve! Yes, Mrs Shephard's courses

So what can we do to make

will help aspiring heads to take advantage of training, but the profession is divided about them. While all welcome the principle that would-be heads should be better trained, some warn of the danger of expecting certificates from all. Gov-ernors could be lulled into a false sense of security, believing that any candidate with the qualification is fit to be a head some say. But others believe it will be a starting point; without it, a deputy head will not ever start down the rocky road to successful headship.

But the crunch time for many heads comes six or sever. years after taking up a post. By this time the impetus of those first new initiatives has begur to slacken, and the flow or ideas may be becoming a little sluggish. Professor Barber suggests sabbaticals, which could allow them to refresh theu ideas and to take a hreather from the daily grind in school Ofsted, the schools inspec-

tion body, is already offering primary school headteachers the chance to spend a year or attachment to its teams of inspectors. This is certainly one way in which a head can pick up new ideas and judge his or her school's performance against that of others, although there are questions to be raised about whether it does anything for the quality of school inspections.

Another new initiative being mooted in London could also help. A group of heads is planning to set up an English versior of the Principal Center at Harvard, in the United States, where heads can meet, take in-service courses and discuss the latest issues. Such networks could form a useful service: headship can be a lonely business.

While Labour and the Conservatives want training for heads, Labour also wants ic provide more back-up. Under Labour, "super-teachers" would have leadership skills but would also provide an example of excellence in the staff room. And with better trail ernors, the post of the head

could become less arduous. But there is a harder fact that most new heads must face: some of them will fail. And for those who do not recognise their own unsuitability and leave, there must be mechanisms to ease the passage out of office.

As one American commentator put it recently: "Ten years ago if I had a vision they would have locked me up. Now I can't get a job without one." Nor, in the brave new educational world of the Nineries, would he be able to keep one.

Diary

JOHN WALSH

"This bewitching multimedia experience," is how Virgin Records describes the new CD-rom version of the Rolling Stones' Voodoo Lounge album, available soon. And it's true, up to a point. This clever device lets you imagine you're in the computerised corridors of a Louisiana mansion, wandering through a dozen marmoreal rooms whose wall-paintings burst into

wandering through a dozen marmoreal rooms whose wall-paintings burst into life at the click of a mouse, wandering past a couple of dozen tableaux vivants of grooving "scenesters" and young women in ill-fitting frocks, while tracks from the million-selling album play to suitably recherché bits of video.

You can choose which room to visit, from a special chart like a Cluedo board. And when you've finished weighing up the merits of "Billiard Room" and "Dining Room", your eye eventually falls on "Ladies' Room". Surely, you think to yourself, they can't be so gross as to ...? But you click on it anyway, and discover that you are indeed in a pristine, World of Interiors women's least on where Mick Jagger can be found by the sink instructing a freezing lavabo, where Mick Jagger can be found by the sink instructing a freezing beauty about the importance of wearing warm clothing. Beyond him there are three cubicles with their doors shut. Surely they can't be made to spring open, to disclose Jerry Hall sitting ... You try it, anyway. Two of the doors, when clicked on, emit shricks of female laughter. The third simply unfurls a loo-roll on which are written the lyrics of Keith Richards's song, "The Worst". Thate, it seems, is not quite dead, even among elderly rockers.



Hall: not in these cubicles

Fashion accessory of the week was the rakishly dented homburg worn by the novelist Walter Mosley at the party thrown for him (and his new book of criminal lowlife, RI's Dream) at Vogue House in London on Monday night. Co-hosted by GQ magazine, it was the week's hot ticket Nick Cave, the cadaverous British singer to be found romancing Kylie Minogue on the upper slopes of the nation's pop charts, was given a brisk lesson in crime literature by m'colleague Vicky Ward. (Typically, she recommended Wilkie Collins's The Moonstone, 1868.) A brace of

heavyweight Yanks' agents, Ed Victor and Abner Stein, prowled about like off-duty assassins. A charabanc-tour of lovelies from the Smithy's giamour agency flicked their hair and prevailed upon the sleepy-eyed but gamely seductive Mr Mosley to sign their copies of his book. GQ's popular editor-elect, Angus McKinnon, reminisced about his ebullient and shockingly maligned predecessor, Michael VerMeulen, while a gatecrashing suit from the rival Esquire complained loudly about the iniquity of McKinnon's appointment. failing to mention that he had himself applied for the job.

The evening's most remarkable sight was that of Mr Mosley's companion, a New York performance poet called Stormy Webber (possibly not her real name), a vision in combat boots, nose-ring and half-shaved, halfdreadlocked barnet. Some way into the party, she subsided to the floor with crashed-out, Bandelairean elegance and deflected all attempts to raise her by the words, "It's OK - I am highly elastic." The only sight to mar the proceedings was that of a chap from the buying department of

Pipeline, the book-distribution company, who wandered in wearing an anorak. It was, need I say, the only anorak to have passed through the portals of Vogue House in many a long year. Pashion writers fainted. Style advisers turned pale. But all attempts to divest him of this unspeakable garment were thwarted. "My T-shirt," he explained to Condé Nast's fragrant (and aghast) promotions diva, "is covered in rude

Far be it from me to speak ill of the dead, but the obitnaries of Lord Home of the Hirsel seem to have left out a detail or two. "If he had any enemies, or even a detractor, they would be extremely hard to find," wrote Lord Whitelaw in these pages. Not all that far, it seems. Readers of Anthony Sampson's Anatomy of Britain Now may recall what a rough ride Sir Alec (as he then was) was given by parliamentarians and ex-FO colleagues invited to contribute to the book, published in 1965, a year after Home had lost the general election to Harold Wilson. Sampson recalls the shock to cabinet colleagues when Sir Alec became PM and quotes one minister as saying: "It will put the Tory party back by 20 years. His views on Africa are semi-Portuguese." Sampson himself recalls the great man's "embarrassing clichés about Africans never having discovered the wheel". But of course political memories can be very selective. Thesday's Daily Mirror, for instance, spoke in hushed tones about "the last of the great Tory gentlemen" and praised his "quiet dignity". This wouldn't be the same Mirror, would it, which greeted his rise to Foreign Secretary, in 1960, as "the most

reckless political appointment since the Emperor Caligula made his borse a consul" ...? Hell Hath No Fury Dept. The publication in November of Philip Hoare's biography of Noël Coward has prompted the unusual spectacle of a skeleton demanding to be let out of the cupboard. A writer called Michael Thornton wrote on Monday to Gay Times, to say that he is widely known



to be Coward's last lover and that he is appalled by the lack of recogninon of this interesting fact. "Why ... is there complete silence over this affair," he demands to know, "and not a single reference to Thornton in Philip Hoare's new biography of Coward? Have the lawyers been at work, or is the gentleman concerned overcome by sudden shyness?" For a biographer to leave out his subject's dernier bonquette is clearly a serious omission. Over to Philip Hoare: "My God, how boring my book would have been if I'd trolled out all the Thorntons of this world. Noël had numerous brief encounters. It's sad that what was probably a one-night stand for Noël, one he probably forgot the following week, should be a lifetime's resentment for poor Mr Thornton." Chaps, please.

An early contender for the title of Most Emetic Invention of the Autumn is the "Singing Santa", which will shortly be appearing in a department store near you. This rebarbative device is powered by a voice-andmusic silicon chip which is activated by anyone walking past it. According to Neil Sutton, a columnist on the excellent Electrical Review, who has clapped eyes on the prototype, the Singing Santa resembles "a twinkleeyed, simpering, elderly pederast" and bursts into a few cheerful bars of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" when anyone goes by. I foresee an unprecedented number of courts delivering verdicts of justifiable homicide ("The cause of death, m'lud, was a blow from a piece of flying plaster") come January.



headteachers worried about

Coward: a serious omission?



NDEPENDEN

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Let the children sing and squawk

Anyone who has ever stopped to chat to an American or Australian tourist will agree that they are generally more articulate than their fellow English speakers, the Brits. But there is a big difference between promnting confident nral performance and suffocating reginnal accents with the Queen's English. Yesterday the Education Secretary, Gillian Shephard, announced a Campaign for the Better Use of the English Language which sadly sounded more like the latter than the former.

It will be incredibly difficult to award a grade for spoken English in a GCSE while still accommodating regional accents and variations in spoken grammar. And even if the examiners are experts in a particu-lar local dialect, how will they cope with the Tynesider who moved to East London at the age of eight, or the Liverpudlian whose parents come from Devnn? There is good reason for children learning to read and write a standard English, but that should not stop them using in conversa-tion the beautiful and various words, phrases and grammatical structures that have persisted in different parts of the country over the centuries. Teach them to speak in a particular way, and you will inevitably undermine that rich diversity.

Quite apart from the sacrilege of trying to standardise a conversational language, there is a serious problem about which regional accent is hranded as "official". As always it will be the Queen's English - a particular London variation of the English of the Middle Ages that just happened to become the dialect of the upper classes. So the children of the Home Counties' middle classes will not find it too difficult to adapt their speaking habits, while their cockney and scouse class-mates will be at an immediate disadvantage.

Mrs Shephard is absolutely right that communication "by grunt" or by fluster or stammer or mutter or any other such manifestation of the nervous Brit is just not good enough. But the British oral problem is not one of grammar, it is one of confidence and practice. The advantage the Americans have is not that they are taught a strict spotent ken grammar, nor that they have regional accents drummed out of them; it is that the whole of their culture teaches them to peak out and keep talking, while their British counterparts are expected to be seen and not heard. Compare the "show and tell" scenes in American school films or Snoopy cartoons with the "what I did on my holiday" essays that English children rarely even get to read aloud.

The same is true of teaching British children foreign languages. Having learnt countless rules of grammar and written vocabulary, they pass their GCSEs still too inhibited to chat in French or German.

Not so their European counterparts. The Campaign for Better Use of the English Language is being chaired by the news reader Trevor MacDonald. Surely Vanessa Felz, the daytime chat show host would be a better role model? We should be looking to encourage people to express themselves and communicate with confid-

ence, oot to read clearly from an autocue.

Mrs Sbephard should abandon any plan
to test spoken English in the GCSE, ft
would inevitably become a test either of elocution or bravado. Making children selfconscious about the phrases or the intonation they use would only inhibit them further. Instead, they should be encouraged to talk in front of their classmates. Less Henry Higgins elocution lessons, and more Eliza Doolittle singing and squawking with confidence in ber native cockney.



Poetry's enter-prize culture

For the thousands of anxious couples struggling to negotiate the complicated procedures of in-vitro fertilisation. yesterday's Patient's Guide published by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority will be very welcome. But the statistical league table of clinics that accompanies the guide should carry a

health warning. In-vitro fertilisation is generally the last resort for desperate couples who have tried every other means to have a child. Few would-be parents are medical experts and they are almost bound to be baffled by the battery of medical explanations and treatments that are offered them. Then there's the problem of where to go: the worry that the clinic down the road with the shorter waiting lists and lower prices may not be as good as the hospital in the city 50 miles away. The success rate in terms of babies per IVF treatment varies from nil to 20 per cent depending oo which clinic you go to. The Patient's Guide is a welcome aid to help couples through the confusion.

But if information is to help couples or to provide an inceotive for bad clinics to improve then it cannot be misleading. And that is where the HFEA report fails. It gives a figure for the "live birth rate" - the number of births for every treatment attempted - for every hospital. It supposedly takes into account both differences among the women treated and the fertility problems that are tackled in each clinic. If one hospital specialises in predominantly older women who have less

B ig money awards for poetry competi-tions have proliferated in recent years.

So has the hard-selling of poetry books and

of spurious "new generations" by means of megahype banalities such as "poetry is the new rock n'roll". The hrash lies of mon-

cyspeak, like the careerist incentives of the

(so-called) enterprise (so-called) culture

jingle against the grain of the sullen art.

tonight the winners of one of the biggest

set of money awards, the Furward Poetry Prizes, will be announced. Meanwhile,

carefully nurtured poetry lists are axed

overnight: profit-fixated marketing rules.

of their money prizes in much bigger and

bolder type than anything else, to entice

large numbers of fortune-bunters, as

opposed to the smaller numbers likely to

be trying to write honest-to-goodness

Poetry is not the new rock'n'roll. Poetry

preceded and infused the blues, gospel and

folk music and still infuses the best rock,

punk and rap. Exactly 30 years ago, before

pop concerts hit bingo, a co-operative of 16 beat, jazz and sound poets headed by Allen Ginsberg filled London's Albert Hall

to overflowing. Without this continuum of

poetic voices and visions, Ginsberg's dis-

cipie Bob Dylan would never have re-

claimed folksong from the shadows or shouted lines like: "While money doesn't

talk, it swears/obscenity who really cares/

Money prizes are directed at the big-

time and the headlines, whereas art and

poetry for its own sake.

propaganda all is phoney."

Most competitions print the amounts

Today is National Poetry Day, and

chance of getting pregnant than their younger counterparts, the hospital success rate will be adjusted to take that into

There are three main problems. First, the number of patients treated in onethird of the clinics is simply too small to be statistically meaningful. The Chiltern Fertility Unit, for example, only treated 40 couples. Secood, the fact that in such a fast-moving area patients depend on tables that are already two years old (the latest figures are for 1993) must render them of limited value. Finally, it is virtnally impossible to include every important difference between bospital treatments, especially as the better clinics are coostaotly innovating. Certain forms of geoetic screening of embryos, for example, reduce the chance of a successful pregnancy because some of the embryos have to be destroyed. On the other hand, they do increase the chance of bearing a healthy child, ft would not be sensible if hospitals felt pressured to give up genetic screening in order to hoost their "live birth rate" and so their position in the league table.

To be fair to the HFEA, it does say clearly that the league tables should not be used as the only guide to choosing a fertility treatment centre. But when infor-mation is so powerful and so vital to those dependent on it, the purveyors of the facts and figures have an even greater responsibility. Publishing the information is a good idea, but the comparisons need to be handled with considerable caution.

literature are news that stays news because

of the intrinsic richness of their forms and

content. The danger is that national poetry

prizes and days will reinforce empty mon-

etarism and narrow little Englandism. As official literary administrations seem ever

more careerist, materialistic and insular,

the Royal Albert Hall is being restored as

a Temple of the Muses. Next Monday sees

the "Return of the Reforgotten" (Gins-

berg, Zephaniah, Sorley MacLean, Bren-

dan Kennelly, Anne Waldman et al). And

on 7 July next year we'll celebrate the

naturally as the leaves to a tree", not as credits to a CV. In 1990 Sir Geoffrey Howe

said: "Every time you sing Jerusalem", with

its dark satanic mills clouding the green

and pleasant land, you are reinforcing an

anti-manufacturing prejudice". Not a prej-

udice - just a commitment to the planet

and to the integrity of inner directions

that's every true poet's birthright.

The beautiful truths of Keats and

Blake long outlive the corruptions and

destructions manufactured by the likes of

Thatcher and Howe. Let's put the

overblown dreams and fabrications of

Loadsamoney aside and look again to the

harder incentives of Jerusalem-building --

to fulfil human and imaginative potential,

worldwide: from each according to their

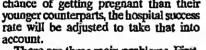
ability, to each according to their need.

The writer is author of Wordsounds &

Sightlines: New & Selected Poems', Sinclair-Stevenson, £6.99.

Keats thought poems should grow "as

"First International Poetry Day".



named "wets". ANOTHER VIEW Michael Horovitz

Verdicts on the legal profession

From Mr Nicholas Draycott Sir: In your letters section "Baltin Mears, the new Law Society president, is berated for his angry response to the Which? report

For all his obvious faults, Mr

Equally, given this pragmatic 1 about lawyers being affinent, approach, Tony Blair's assump-: extravagant and selfish were cor-

NICHOLAS DRAYCOTT Sydenham, Oxfordshire 10 October



• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Howarth's accurate assessment | Good opportunities for black Britons

From The Rt Rev Edward

Sir: Can the Government not understand that many of us share Alan Howarth's unhappiness with present policies? We do not want the tax cuts but, rather, wish to see taxes used well to streogthen the health service, education, investment in business, and the reduction of unemployment.

The Government underestimates us when it offers us the carrot of cuts in taxation. We are concerned for the health of our country and the future and wish to see the infrastructure strengthened and improved.

Anyone can see the effect on schools, hospitals, those in need of care, even prisons, the armed forces and the arts. And the Lottery cannot be the answer to all these problems! Many of us teachers, the planned closure of would be glad to see a policy of Bart's hospital - the oldest pmb-cent of Americans own 40 per increased taxation if the money lie hospital in the world - and the cent of the wealth. Britain's top were well used. Yours faithfully,

†ÉDWARD HOLLAND (Bisbop of Colchester) Colchester, Essex 10 October

From Dr Peter South Sir: Andrew Marr asserts ("Must Major drown in dirty blue water?", 10 October) that "it is hard to argue that Major is a harsh, punitive, indeceot or immoral politician as compared with Margaret Thatcher, wbom Howarth happily supported". However, Margaret Thatcher, powerful leader that she was, had to push her radical policies against the arguments of a vocal and articulate array of moderates such as Howe, Hurd, Clarke and the two Pattens, who were less easily scuttled than the aptly

In comparison, John Major, although a decent man, is up against a formidable group of right-wingers, such as Portillo, Redwood, Lilley and the loyal, respectable Howard, who are fully conscious of their relative power. He is the nice lad who is impressionable and has fallen in with the wrong crowd.

This, perhaps, was the true comparison Alan Howarth had to make before deciding to leave the party in which he bad served as Yours truly. PETER SOUTH

Frittenden, Kent 10 October From Mr Robin Alexander Sir: f find the description of John

Major by Andrew Marr and other commentators as a "decent man" incomprehensible. He is answerable for, inter alia, the vicious jobseeker's allowance, the cut in income support belp for mortgage payers and the consequent increase in bomelessness, the anti-democratic Criminal Justice Act, the Asylum and Immigration Bill, the sackings of hundreds of general wrecking of parts of the NHS. The list of the depravities perpetrated by his ministers for which he must take ultimate responsibility is endless. Some decency. Yours faithfully,

London, WC1 From Mr Simon James Sir: So, Alan Howarth, MP, until recently a member of the far right No Turniog Back group, has joined the Labour Party, saying his views have not changed. Does

be an old Tory one? Yours faithfully, SIMON JAMES Loodon, SW17 10 October

ROBIN ALEXANDER

From Mr Antony Boase Sir. Waking up to the early mornmg news on my radio alarm, I could have sworn I heard that Michael Howard had defected to the Labour Party. If only. Yours sincerely. ANTONY BOASE Woodditton, Cambridgeshire g October

Nevertheless, it is unfair to

expect lawyers to resolve the

problems of inadequate govern-

ft is time that misconceptions

ft will be interesting to see if

doctors and surgeons are

approached in the same way and

asked to treat patients on a pro

bono basis to improve access to

what different.

health care.

Yours sincerely,

NICOLA JAYNE ENSTON

Colwyn Bay, Clwyd

this not show that a "new"

Labour government would just

From Ms Nicola Jayne Enston Sir. It is admirable that certain eminent barristers are prepared to undertake work for no fee in response to Tony Blair's plea for lawyers to improve citizeus'

ancing solicitors' oceds and access to justice. Unfortunately, clients' rights' (9 October) Marlegal aid is scarce and it is likely to become something of a rarity if the proposals contained in the Green Paper Legal Aid - Targetabout poor legal advice. ing Need are implemented.

Mears should at least be given credit for unashamedly admitting that the function of the Law that the function of the Law ment funding, by urging them Society is (and in truth always has freely to donate their profesbeen) to uphold and protect sional services. It should not be solicitors' interests. This refresh-forgotten that many experienced ing bouesty should obviate those and inexperienced barristers nanseatingly hypocritical debates & already undertake pro bono work between the Law Society and the con a regular basis throughout Bar, where diametrically opposed a organisations such as the Free views are paraded as being "in Representation Unit. the public interest".

tion that the legal profession rected, when the reality is somecould be prevailed upon toundertake some free work! exposes Blair as a oaive sentimentalist and raises doubts about his judgement and common

Yours faithfully,

From Mr Geoffrey Perret Sir. The admiration you rightly feel for General Colin Powell appears stronger than your grasp of social and racial realities ("Far from the promised land", 10 October), ft is a myth that social mobility is sluggish in this country and buoyant in the US. The rate of social mobility, ie the changes in socio-economic status of one generation of people when compared with their parents' has been approximately 30 per cent in nearly all developed countries, including Britain and the US, since before the Second

World War. Moreover, the US now has, according to the OECD, the smallest middle class, as a proportion of the total population, of any developed nation. This reflects the fact that just 1 per cent of Americans own 40 per 1 per cent, by way of comparisoo, owns 18 per cent of the national wealth. On current trends, the US could end up a geoeration from now with a socio-economie profile more closely resembling that of a Third World nation than anything most people associate

with an industrialised country.

Nor can f share your entbusiasm for Clarence Thomas. Millions of Americans believe he perjured himself to get on to the Supreme Court. The circumappointment, including George Bush's ludicrous claim that he was "the best qualified person in America", combined tragedy and farce. An example to shame the British people? Perhaps not.

You also forget those black immigrants who have succeeded bere, such as Lord Pitt, who arrived with nothing but ability and a commitment to public service, only to conclude his career in the House of Lords and as a widely admired member of one of the most exclusive British clubs of all, the Great and the Good. General Powell's assertion that sergeant-major was the most he could have expected to become had his parents boarded a ship heading for Southampton underestimates both his own talents

and this country's. Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY PERRET Beverley, Humberside 10 October

From Mr Michael Gottlieb Sir: What point exactly are you making in your leading article? Are you saying that blacks are not in senior positions in the Army, politics or industry because of conscious and unconscious discrimioation on the part of employers?

If so, you are mistaken. No donbt discrimination goes oo in Britain, as it does the world over. but you seem to be implying that stances surrounding Thomas's it is on such a wholesale level as

to ensure that blacks do not even get a look-in. A number of my friends, who Proo

head up leading national and international firms, tell me that the reason why no more than a small number of blacks are in senior jobs is simply that they do not apply. The skills shortage, at senior as well as junior levels, is so acute that I cannot believe there is any other reason.

Businessmen are extremely practical people. I happen to employ one black manager, responsible for one of my restaurants with a £3.5m turnover. So whati f am effectively colourblind and would employ as many good people, regardless of their colour, as f could find. However, if they are not applying for the job I cannot go out and deliberately find them.

As an American who has lived here since 1970, f am convinced that there are proportionately as many openings for blacks in Britain as in the US. Perhaps urconscious precooceptions prevent them from seeing the opportunities that are there for them to

The door is opeo, I assure you: if only they would believe it. Yours sincerely, MICHAEL GOTTLIEB

Proprietor Smollensky's Restaurants Londoo, WC2 10 October

Identifying the fascist mentality

From Mr John Doheny Sir. Felipe Fernandez-Armesto (Essay, 9 October) is right. Fascism is too complex a monster to be amenable to hair-splitting definition. Why? Partly because historians habitually identify fascism with extreme right-wing ideologies.

Looked at from a purely psy-chological perspective, fascism is first and foremost a state of mind that readily adapts itself not only to the far right, hut also to an endless spectrum of political and religious belief systems, including Commonism, Islam

and Christianity.
Stalin, despite his Communist credentials, was a fascist dictator differing little from Hitler. He meets all of Felipe Fernandez-Armesto's defining criteria: he put the group before the indi-vidual, order before freedom, cohesina before diversity, revenge before reconciliation, retribution before compassion, the supremacy of the strong before the defence of the weak. The institutionalisation of the

fascist mentality marks the transition of primitive Christianity into Roman Catholicism so that the persecuting popes can be lined up beside Hitler and Stalin. Khomeini likewise. He, like his

illustrious European couoterparts, was driven by what may be described as a purification compulsion. His sanitising crusade was launched to purge Islam of all who resisted the spread of his own idiosyncratic brand of Shi'ism; Stalin launched pogroms against any who might pollute his paranoid notions about the nature of Soviet Communism; the persecuting popes instigated their orgy of doctrinal cleansing by burning beretics; we doo't oeed to be reminded how assiduously Hitler's most ardent disciples implemented his policy of

"ethnic cleansing".
The point is this: fascism will not - indeed cannot - even begin to make sense until we strip it of all political and religious connotations and begin to see it for what it initially is - a state of mind searching for an ideology. Yours sincerely, JOHN DOHENY Cult Research International London, N8 10 October

From Mr Julian Smith Sir: Felipe Fernandez-Armesto asserts in his commendable article oo fascism that "exponents of the selfish gene seem to vindicate

Hitler's divine commandment, thou shalt preserve the species", as an example of how "modern science bas confronted us with a nakedly amoral and aggressive oatural world".

While it may be true that some scientific analyses of nature do rightly uoderlioe this ruthless, relentless process, I don't think that the scientists themselves can be blamed - unless, of course, their science is informed by fascist opinions. The "selfish gene" hypothesis of Richard Dawkins is based oo the author's belief that yes, it is a cruel world, the weak will go to the wall, and the strongest will take the power, unless moral human beings take steps to prevent this. Fascism in all its forms is therefore something that proponents of the "selfisb gene", or at least its orig-inator, are implicitly and implacably opposed to.

Science and scientists are no more or less of a threat to freedom than they ever have been. Yes, scientific endeavours must be monitured and policed to avoid the occasional disaster. But scientists have yet to become the new SS. Yours faithfully,

JULIAN SMITH London, W3 9 October

Prostitution facts

From Ms Maggie O'Neill Sir: Angeln Lambert ("Keep out.

This is a private view, 26 September) reports mistakenly that f believe that one man in 10 visits a prostitute". There is no reliable data in Britain to produce this kind of generalisation. When asked by Ms Lambert about clients, I did suggest that she talk to a project based in the West Midlands, where this figure had been extrapolated from numbers of contacts women bad had with clients over a certain period. As a professional researcher and

sociologist, f am not in the busi-ness of believing generalisations without reliable data.

Also, f have not been "collecting information on prostitutes since 1993". However, f bave been engaged in researching prostitution as a cultural practice since 1990, and f have been engaged in action research, often with women and young people who are working as prostitutes, in order to help develop policy changes. Yours sincerely,

MAGGIE O'NEILL Senior Lecturer in Sociology Staffordshire University Stoke-on-Trent

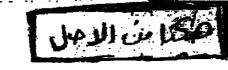
Battle of Brussels

From Mr Roger Moores

Sir: Just over 51 years and a month ago, British soldiers were fighting for Brussels. I believe they were proud to be doing so. Yours sincerely. ROGER MOORES

Colchester 11 October

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@ independent.co.uk) Letters may be edited for length and clarity.



comment

Singing that old tax-cutting tune

Tories are good at talking about spending curbs, but rather bad at getting round to them

Alan Howarth, Labour's newest MP, is having more of an impact on Budget thinking than he may realise. With the Government's majority now dangerously slim, the balance of risk is turning in favour of a serious bout of tax cutting this year. A few coronaries, an unexpected resignation, and the 1996 pre-election Budget has gone. John Major needs to get money into voters' pockets while he still can.

Nods and winks from people round him suggest that the Prime Minister intends to say something substantial on tax and spending in his speech. But the public spending negotiations, with all the semi-public posturing and propaganda they involve every year, are still in mid-haggle. And Major cannot pre-empt his Chancellor on the details of Budget tax cuts.

His most obvious strategy would be to hind himself to a rolling programme of tax cuts, perhaps taking the hasic rate itself down to 20p in three years, and promising a substantial start this autumn. An alternative would be to cut VAT on fuel, as Labour proposes - something which, judging by their applause yesterday, party activists

would love. Major himself is in ebullient private form and an act of tax-cutting conference drama has an obvious appeal. It would give him ecstatic weekend headlines in the Conservative press and, with the party more unitedly Euro-sceptical than it has ever been before, it might tilt the media verdict on the conference as a whole. The move to the right, so evident nn Europe, welfare and crime, would be confirmed. The

()

Birth Driften.

fightback would be declared to have started at Blackpool.

Yet tax cutting now would be genuinely risky, both politically and econ-omically. The markets are already showing signs of slight unease about government finances, and Major needs a cut in interest rates, too, preferably during the winter. He needs credibility at a time when the money men are suspicious about the rigour

and principle of late-era Majorism.

One indication of this is a City story which argues that Howard Davies, the new deputy governor of the Bank of England, whose views on executive pay made headlines recently, is Tony Blair's preferred choice as governor. If the incumbent, Eddie George, wants to keep his joh, therefore, he needs a Conservative victory. And how, the story mischievously finishes, will that affect his attitude when Kenneth Clarke suggests it is time for a loos-ening of policy?

It is a good story, made better by the fact that Alan Greenspan at the Fed-eral Reserve Bank in Washington, is also facing a bright, politically aware challenger, the Clinton-appointed Alan Blinder, it gives some idea about how sceptical the markets are, and how nervous of the contamination of

policy by politics. All that said, economists seem relaxed about a Clarke tax cut of anywhere between £2bn and £4bn. Yesterday's "green Budget" from the Institute of Fiscal Studies and Goldman Sachs argued that there was room for £2-£3bn. That might still allow for a half-point off interest rates



ANDREW MARR Columnist of the Year

also interesting. Labour has made some progress in encouraging a feeling of guilt among voters about lower taxes and poorer public services. The Conservatives' own "focus group" research shows that even Tory voters are now feeling a bit ambiguous about the matter.

In the end, though, there is such broad base of support in the party for that old familiar tax-cutting tune that Major can be expected to sing it loudly on Friday. Though ministers had believed that the main cuts would not come for a year, their mood has changed.

It is not only the danger of an election being forced early. It is also that, if the mood of suspicion among the voters is to be dealt with, the cuts need to be made now and, if possible, repeated in 1996. "It has to be a theme, a pattern, not something that can be painted by Labour as a oneoff pre-election gimmick," one minister said.

The gamble may be hedged around with other wheezes, such as the notion of "time-bomb" tax cuts legislated in advance to cause problems for any s well. future Labour government. Major's own Huntingdon constituency party

The Lloyds takeover of TSB is evidence of the transformation sweeping service industries

Proof of the big bank theory

has a motion down for today's economic debate demanding the abolition of inheritance tax, for instance. One MP argues that this could be legislated

to occur in, say, 1998.

All of which is fair enough, and much what one would expect from Conservatives with their hackles up. But there is a deeper question here for the Tories and one which only the free spirits outside government have been facing up to. For the truth is that while the party is very good at talking about cutting public spending and reducing the tax burden - consistent, clear, forceful - it is rather had at getting round to doing it.

The share of national wealth spent by the state has wohhled up and down a little during the Eight-ies and Nineties, but it has not moved decisively, and today, the Government's declared objective to get it back down below 40 per cent is regarded as optimistic even by some Treasury officials.

Tax cutting has become for the Tories what public spending has long been for Labour. It provokes instant scepticism about where the money is coming from. There is a similar unreality about the issue, a readiness to talk with relish about radical tax targets. combined with a pervous timidity whenever ministers are faced with real proposals for real cuts. This was so even under Margaret Thatcher, and it is certainly the case today.

When John Redwood launched his leadership challenge to Major in the summer, it was embarrassingly clear that even he was going for the soft option involving vague promises of efficiency savings as a way out. At the time Norman Lamont, who was campaigning for Redwood, was disquieted enough not to appear alongside him during the press conference.

Now both men are back on the conference fringe. Redwood has pro-duced more detail on his earlier package, including cuts in government advertising, urban renewal, housing and civil service jobs. Lamont, much more radically, suggested transfer-ring large parts of the social security system to the private sector, introducing charges for health care, boost-ing private health insurance and cut-ting means-tested benefits for people

of working age.
This may be wild stuff, easier to say in a fringe meeting than in Whitehall. But when Lamont argues that the Conservatives are reaching the limits of credibility in regularly promising dramatic tax cuts while pulling back from the big spending controversies, he makes a strong, valid and timely point.

For the days when salami-slicing budgets, selling off assets and delaying capital programmes can be presented as the core of a convincing and radical tax agenda are nearly over. Booms, oil and privatisations have delayed the arrival of the obvious; but the obvious is now sinnehing into the political daylight. If there is no rethinking of what the Government does, then the state's share of spending is going to remain roughly where it has been. It certainly will not fall; and nor will the tax take.

One day the Conservatives will have to face up to this. When? In opposition, surely, these are truths too big for governments to handle.

Are you goin' to read my poem?

Today is National Poetry So why not put your prose

away And spend a little bit of time Trying to communicate in

For instance, at the hreakfast Avoid, as far as you are able. Your unthinking repertoire of prose Like, "No more coffee, I

suppose?"
"What's the forecast say

today?"
They think that rain is on the way". "Anything for me in the

post? Or "Do us another hit of

Don't be so predictable! Don't rise from bed with mind like wool, And sit there in a soggy daze. Come in brightly! Sparkle!

Tap dance a little! Wave your hands! Utter stuff that rhymes and

scans! Say: "Time to break our fast logether! Time to hear the news and weather!

Goodbye to sleepy hed and pillow -et's brace ourselves for Mr Portillo. As he abandons common

And bijacks the Tory conferencel

"Or why not turn the radio

And - avoiding Radios 2 & 1 Go straight for dear old Radio 3

And solve the weekly mystery: Who's composer of the

week? Is it some modern Finn or

Greek, Whose cacophonic sounds are summoned For the ears alone of Sir John Drummond? Or is it Grieg or Arthur Bliss

Or someone safer still than You see? It's not so very

To spout crude doggerel by the yard. It's even easier to speak in

verse If you are willing to rehearse. In Shakespeare they do it all the time Even if blank verse doesn't rhyme.)

t lifts the spirit, cheers you Yes, please, could you pour

Of fresh ground coffee, not too strong?

ACCOUNT AN

ASK YOUR CURRENT

After that, I must get along

Ah, it's nearly time for work So, as you drive through fog and murk Towards your workplace (if

you're employed)
Don't let your mind become a void! Prepare the odd resounding

line! Open the shutters of your

(Yes, I know that "mind" and Don't really rhyme, but now that's fine.

Rhymes that used to be nut of court Are now "half-rhymes", eagerly sought.

It's all because of WH Auden. The arhiter of all things "Auden" and "modern"!

Another rhyme



Considered dreadful in its time ...)

When at your workplace you arrive. Cry. "Gosh it's good to be

Hot doggity, yes sirree!

Mens sana in sano corpore!" (Of course, it should be "corpore sano" But nothing rhymes, except for guano.)

And so, through National

Poetry Day, Never lose a chance to say The first thing that comes into your mind As long as the second is nearly

Normally our speech is so empirical;

il lyrical! Wax suphonic! Go postic! Not to try would be pathetic! And when Friday comes and Thursday goes
You can gratefully revert to

For help with this poem. financial aid, And future subsidy promises

We'd like to thank the Lotters. The Arts Council and the

Treasury. We'd really like to, but we can't. None of the buggers would give us a grant.

Can I

Harsh changes: manufacturing industry, such as Consett steelworks, has experienced upheaval; now it is the turn of services like the TSB

So the bank that likes to say "ves" to its customers has said it for itself: the TSB is being taken over by Lloyds.

Newspapers tend, reasonably enough, to write about these large takeovers in one of three ways. There is a financial story: the hillions going to one or other set of shareholders. There is a human story: the hundreds. perhaps thousands of jobs that might be lost in what is politely called "rationalisation". And there is a public policy story: might a large merger like this result in less competition for banking services in the high street?

Nothing wrong with any of that, for all these approaches are useful in their own way. But there is another way of looking at this takeover that encompasses all three, and it starts with a simple question: why? A takeover like this does not hap-

pen just out of whim. Of course, some takeovers have little rationale and subsequently unravel, but this is not a oneoff. We are seeing a whole industry transform itself, and industries do not put themselves through large structural changes unless there is some powerful impetus to do so.

There is, Several of our hig service industries, including banking, are in the early stages of a transformation akin to that which has governed our manufacturing industries for a generation. Until recently most of these industries lived in a protected environment - just as, say, our car and motorcycle industries lived in during the Fifties. Banking, insurance, retailing and telecommunications all lived, and still live to a large extent, immune from international competition. They compete with each other, to be sure, but within known rules of engagement. It was international competition, or

rather our inadequate response to it, that did for our mass-market car and motorcycle industries. Much the same thing happened to our consumer electronics industry, although we have been more successful in preserving some indigenous up-market brands. In some corners of manufacturing we have kept such successful niche players, but much of our mass manufacturing is now foreign-owned. Indeed, foreign ownership, by bringing in world-class standards, has led to the

welcome renaissance now evident. But it is a harsh process. Mass manufacturing is a commodity business. The products are much the same, so there is tremendous pressure to grind down costs. To make money you have either to be very hig in world terms (being hig in national terms is not enough) or you have to find the undiscovered corner where craft and cun-

ning enable smallish players to excel.
This process, this division into commodity and niche businesses is less advanced in most service businesses, largely because they have been less exposed to international competition. But it is happening. Look at retailing. It is an area where we have not only responded effectively to foreign competition, but are exporting our own expertise. Retailing is not yet a truly global business, but if it does become one, we have several global brand names: M&S in particular.

But our high streets and our out-oftown shopping centres are dominated by chains. There is a homogeneity



Banking is changing from being a cottage industry into a genuine

factory system

about British retailing which is unequalled in Europe. An M&S, a Boots, a Sainsbury or any of the other top 10 brands provides consistent high quality. We have voted for these dominant chains with our purses and wallets in exactly the same way that we have voted to huy our cars and our TVs from a dozen or so dominant manufacturers. And we seem to be in the process of making the same choice

with financial services. There have, of course, been large hanking groups for many years: witness the waves of mergers before the Second World War which led to the big seven" clearing banks. The seven then became four and names like Martins and the District disappeared. So in one sense we are seeing just another act of a very long-running play.

But there are two new features in the past couple of years that are now forcing even faster change. One is the ability of huilding societies to change from mutual ownership to shareholder ownership. This has increased the spirit of competition for retail banking husiness and created new entities that can be taken over.

The other is a change in what might be called the manufacturing of financial services. We don't think of banking services being manufactured, but someone has to feed the information into computers, handle the cash, make the decisions about loans, try and sell travellers' cheques and so on. Some of this work is done at central "factories". such as the banks' computer centres. But a lot still goes on in branches in the high street. Next time you have to queue at a bank counter and see several of the staff just sitting at their desks, reflect on the fact that they are not doing nothing - they are manu-

facturing banking services.

But now hanking is changing from being a cottage industry with lots of branches staffed by loss of people into a genuine factory system. First Direct, the telephone banking service of the Midland Group, has its staff sitting in a central "factory" doing their business over the phone. This has had an absolutely shattering impact on the way banks think. It does very well on customer satisfaction (excellent results in this month's Which? report), it is very cheap and it does not trade on what banks have assumed was one of their great assets, their brand name.

Much the same is happening with telephone insurance services, pioneered by the Royal Bank of Scotland's

ALL TOGETHER IN HARMONY

BEHIND JOHN MAJOR. ONE

Photographs: North News/Geraint Lewis Direct Line, which are proliferating. Result: banking and insurance are becoming true commodity products, where people make a utilitarian deci-sion on who is doing the best deal.

rather than being loyal to their par-

ents' hank, or the one that gave them

their first student overdraft. This put tremendous pressure on the industry to find ways of driving down costs. There may be room for a handful of boutiques that charge much more and offer a personal service. This is certainly very profitable - all the big banks are seeking to provide this sort of service. But the hig business consists of driving down costs, "rationalising" "downsizing", "letting people go", and all the other euphemisms that compa-nies employ when they are cutting their labour force. No one knows how far telephone banking will cut into branch hanking but the banks know that they have to slim their branches and offer some form of telephone service. And slimming is less painful if you huddle

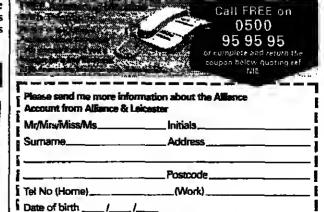
with someone else while you do it. So what we are seeing is the same sort of process that has happened in manufacturing; the same sort of job insecurity, the same pressure to drive down costs; and from the customer's point of view, the same homogeneity of service. We clearly want it. We chose the hanks (or building societies) that offer the best perceived service for the lowest price: the cheapest loans, the highest deposil rates. We may regret the loss of independence of the TSB, just as we bemoan the closure of the corner store or the demise of names such as Austin or Riley. But that is

by Tony Reeve and Steve Way

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obituaries/gazette

Christopher Keene

There were few jobs around an opera house that Christopher Keene did not do superlatively well. A magnificent conductor, in particular of 20th-century works, and a successful administrator, he also composed. wrote libretti, directed and, in his younger days, prepared singers with missionary zeal.

At New York City Opera, first as music director then, after the retirement of Beverley Sills, as general director, he made an indelible mark on the city's musical tife, but his influence extended far beyond New York



Keene: New York City Opera

City, to the Spolcto Festival. both in Italy and the United States, and to all the numerous other opera companies and orchestras that he worked with over the last 25 years, and to whom he communicated his own passionale interest in

contemporary opera. Keene was born in Berkeley, California, in 1946 and studied there at the University of California, but dropped out before graduating, mainly because his passion for putting on student and semi-professional opera productions, which he directed and conducted himself, took up

dence of spirit gave intima-

oncering work in the establish-

ment of speech therapy as an effective treatment for lan-

guage disorders led to her be-

ing the first person to receive

Honours of the Profession from

the Royal College of Speech

and Language Therapists, in

Born into a comfortable,

middle-class family (her father

was an eminent printer), Peg-gy Carter was the only girl

among a family of five children.

Thus, with loving brothers and a settled way of life, she might

well have remained at home un-

til marriage and a subsequent

family would claim her. In-

stead she ventured forth, first

into the theatre, and then, at-

tracted by the plight of those with language difficulties, she turned in the Thirties to speech

therapy. The profession was in

its early stages of development

and aspiring speech therapists

had to rely to a great extent on

In the early Forties, Carter

held clinical appointments at the

Mildmay Hospital, in east Lon-don, and at the West End Hos-

pital for Nervous Diseases, also Carter: speech therapy

their own private study.

he went along. Instead of finishing his university course, in 1969 he became the first Julius Rudel Fellow, in the New York City Opera's training scheme, helping to prepare op-eras such as Janacek's Makropulos Case for its first New York performance.

By that time Keene had already become associated with the Spoleto Festival in Italy, of which he was music director from 1976 to 1980. He was asked by Menotti to conduct The Saint of Bleecker Street there in 1968. Back in New York, he made his conducting debut with NYCO in 1970 with Ginastera's Don Rodrigo and his Metropolitan début the following year with Cavalleria Rusticana and Pagliacci. This latter was not a success: the star and the orchestra did exactly what they pleased, while Keene was not much interests in Cav and Pag anyway. He then ran a ner festival at Chautauqua and conducted for Syracuse Opera and various other organisations. In 1973 he made his Covent

Garden début conducting Madam Butterfly; in 1974 he conducted a Ring cycle at Art-park, Lewiston; and from 1977 to 1980 he worked for the American Spoleto Festival at Charleston, South Carolina. He wrote the libretto for Stephen Douglas Burton's The Duchess of Malfi, an adaptation of Webster's tragedy, and conducted the premiere at Wolf Trap Farm, Vienna, West

Virginia, in 1978. Keene finally returned to the City Opera as musical di-rector in 1983. He conducted Philip Glass's Akhnaten the following year, and recorded Glass's Satyagraha with the City Opera forces in 1985. In 1988 Il his energies. he conducted the premiere of He learnt how to conduct as Jay Reise's Raspuin. The fol-

Peggy Carter

of treatment tended towards a

Her main interest lay in the

problems of stammerers and the

thesis which led to the award of

a Fellowship of the Royal Col-

lege of Speech and Language

Therapists in 1944 centred on

this subject. At the same time

she took an active part in the de-

a whole - serving as Chairman

of the College from 1963 to

1965, a time of great activity

during which plans for the first

university degree-based course

were being considered - and

continued to practise for several

velopment of the profession as

Peggy Carter was a member of in London (now closed), where

that group of redoubtable she treated a wide range of

women born at the turn of the adults and children with lan-

century who by their indepen- guage disorders. Her methods

tions of the emancipation which was to come about later. Her pi-an especial interest in Jung.

lowing year he became general director of the company. Since then NYCO has gained enormously in reputation, offering New York its first staged performance of Moses und Aron and its local premieres of Zimmerman's Die Soldatan and Busoni's Dr Faustus.

During its 50th anniversary season in 1993 the City Opera staged three premieres of American operas in October: Ezra Laderman's Marilyn, Lukas Foss'a Griffelkin and Hugo Weisgall's Esther. These were not conducted by Keene himself, whose personal contribotion to the anniversary season was the New York premiere of Tippett's Midsummer Marriage. In June 1994 Keene conducted the premiere of Dominick Argento's Dream of Valentino for Washington Opera and in May was to be found in Berlin, conducting the first performance of Joost Meier's Drey fus - "Die Affare" at the Deutsche Oper. However, his first commit-

ment was to the City Opera. whose 1995 fall season he opened on 7 September conducting a new production of Hindemith's Mathis der Maler. Running an opera company, as he once said, "was what I was born to do".

Elizabeth Forbes

Christopher Keene: born Berkeley, California 21 December 1946; music director, Festival of the Two Worlds, Spoleto, Italy 1972-76, general director 1973-75; music director, Artpark 1974-89; music director, Syracuse Symphony 1975-84; music di-rector, Spoleto Pestival USA 1977-80; music director, Long Island Philharmonic 1979-90; music director. New York City Opera 1982-86, general director 1989-95; married (two sons); died New York 8 October 1995.

years afterwards until retiring in

apy were only one facet of Peg-

passions were gardens and,

above all, the fine arts. This was

apparent when visiting her

house, where she was sur-

rounded by beautiful pictures

and furniture. On one occasion

she spotted a dilapidated sofa

in a second-hand shop. Taken

same again to have it delivered.

Instinctively she felt there was

something special about it and this was confirmed by Sotheby's

who identified it as being prob-

ably the very one on which

Madame Récamier had re-

clined when being painted by

Jacques-Louis David. It was

later bought by a Paris museum.

Her garden was a source of

it, she paid £5 and then the

But matters of speech ther-

Carter's interests. Other



Catherine Cobb

The study of the crafts in 20thcentury England requires, beyond knowledge of objects, a knowledge of people and their activities away from the work-bench. The life of Catherine Cobb spanned nearly the whole century and her craft career, from initiation into jewellerymaking on the floor underneath her mother's workbench to the classes she was teaching in Cambridge within a month of her death, was nearly as long. Besides this she was a puppeteer and examiner in art all over the.

As the daughter of the bookbinder Douglas Cockerell and his wife Florence Arundel (who died when she was a child), she was born into an Arts and Crafts household. There was a photograph of William Morris the hall of the Cockerells' house in Letchworth and she assumed for years that he must have been one of the distinguished bearded visitors, although she was born seven years too late. Her uncle Sir Sydney Cockerell knew Morris and John Ruskin. She never doubted that the crafts were "a perfectly reasonable way to spend one's life".

"Casty" Cockerell learnt her craft of jewellery and silver-smithing at the Central School, in London, where she joined unfailing pleasure for her to the last. It was a place of great beau-ty and tranquillity and each year it was opened to the public. She celebrated her 90th birthday by having floodlighting some lively students who were experimenting with block-printing textiles. One of these, installed so that her many friends attending the party Joyce Clissold, became a firm could enjoy the scene as darkness fell. friend and Casty had space in the Footprints textile workshop which Clissold took over from **Margaret Edwards** its founders. Casty found some Margaret (Peggy) Carter, speech Punch and Judy puppets in her therapist: born Sanderstead June 1901; died London 17 Septemtheir Punch and Judy show on tour, around Buckinghamshire and along the south coast.

There were many adventures retailed in Clissold's diaries, which were lent by Casty Cobb for the exhibition "Bold Impressions" which recently opened at Central St Martin's Lethaby Gallery. She also assisted the sculptor William Simmonds with his marionette theatre, remembered with awe by the few lucky enough to see it, helping to pass the puppets on andoff while the illustrator Barnett Freedman provided music with his violin.

Casty Cobb's work falls into three categories. There were pieces of jewellery, typically of a slightly improvised nature using objets trouvés like quartz good deal to say." from a Scottish stream-bed and materials of low value found by rummaging in suppliers' boxes in Clerkenwell Road. She had a fondness for the clear, bright and transparent and no aversion to theatricality. Among her recent productions were necklaces with black, white and red beads on brass safety pins. Another line of work was to supply silver clasps and other ornaments for bookbindings from the Cockerell bindery which was carried on by her brother

Perhaps her most individual contribution to the crafts of her time was in silver piqué work on ivory and ebony. This consists of hammering silver wire into holes pierced in the base material to make little silver points, arranged in simple patterns. She made ivory boxes and cruet sets but most particularly cut-

Lord Justice Hutchison);

with old silver, when servants to clean knife blades no longer existed. She made knives and forks, with steel elements forged in Sheffield to her design, to which she added her delightful and distinctive piqué handles.

In 1937 Casty married Arthur Cobb and encouraged him in setting up the Forest School Camps Group. When her children had grown up, she began examining in art for the Uni-versity of Cambridge Local Ex-aminations Syndicate, often travelling with the potter Charlotte Bawden. She was sent to Malaya, Africa and India; recalling, "We pulled up the stan-dard. They were always willing to listen to us, and we had a

The Cobbs moved to Cambridge during the Second World War and Casty taught drawing and design as well as jewellery at Cambridge Technical College. She later held a jewellery class at her house in Trumpington without any thought of retiring even after reaching 90, sharing the benefits of her excellent collection of tools as well as a sense of the pleasure and excitement of the activity itself, overlooked by Joyce Clissold's fabric collage pictures of some of their shared adventures.

Cobb was a member of the Art Workers Guild. Her work is represented in the collection. of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths.

Alan Powers Catherine Anne Cockerell, jeweller and silversmith: born 28 March 1903; married 1937 family attic, Clissoid printed fabric for a "set-up" and in the summers of the Thirties they took fine stainless steel knives to go bridge 17 September 1995. bles of logic in the phrase appealed to his sense of fun and It also seemed to embody a certain Englishness, the antithesis to the intellectual standards of his native Berlin, with which he fell in love. But the words were not a bad description of him, for much of his life.

Michael Thomas

He was never an exclusive native of any country, or any organisation, but always had the alluring, sometimes perturbing air of a stranger from some wider continent of experience. He was never a foot-slogger, but always a contact man, interpreting the orders and standards of one world to another. His greatest achievement was

It always amused Michael

Thomas that the British in 1940

classified him as "a friendly en-

emy alien". The cheerful sham-

in exactly that role, during the earliest years of the British occupation of their zone of Germany. Thomas, by then an officer in the British forces, became the eyes and ears of General Templer, a very special and privileged young man who made contact with emergent politicians and journalists in the zone and assessed them for his master. This did not make him popular with some senior Control Commission figures. But it made him one of the people whose judgement and choices defined West Germany's political society as it rose nervously from the ruins. The Federal Republic itself is, in some of its better aspects, his memorial.

He was born into the Hol-laender family in Berlin, a con-stellation of assimilated Jewish talent and intellectual attainment; his father was a writer, a critic and a director of Max Reinhardt's theatre. Uhich Hollaender, as Michael was first named, reached Britain only weeks before the outbreak of war. He changed his name in order to protect his family in Germany but always refused to describe himself as a refugee or émigré. With charming arro-gance, he recalled: "I did not care to stand aside when Britain was about to be invaded, so I volunteered for the Army-notas an Englishman, but as a private ally in the struggle

This was the beginning of his many careers as a contact man between cultures. Later in the war, he became liaison officer in Normandy to the legendary General Maczek, commander of the Polish 1st Armoured Division, and he stayed with the Poles until the war ended (Maczek died last year at the age of 102, and Thomas wrote an affectionate, penetrating obituary for the Independent). There followed his period with General Templer, and his part in the re-invention of German

democracy.
Personally a conservative in politics, Michael Thomas did not immediately warm to the narrow personality of Konrad Adenauer, but in his book Deutschland, England über alles (1987) there is a wonderfully funny memoir of how he and the then Lieutenant-Colonel Noël Annan tried to limit the damage caused when n British brigadier sacked Adenauer as mayor of Cologne for "playing politics" instead of clearing

In the same way, he did not often agree with the liberal views of Die Zeit and Der Spiegel, seedlings of a free press in the British Zone, but his personal respect for Countess Mar-ion Donhoff and Rudolf Augstein helped both publications to survive dangerous

Later, in the 1950s, Michael Thomas took the decision to stay in Germany. His British "dimension" continued to flourish: his wife Elizabeth, who survives him, is English, while his sons and his daughter Gina (a London-based writer for the Frankfurter Allgemeine) were sent to English public schools. But he settled in Hamburg and, declining invitations from Adenauer's circle to become a politician, joined the steel exporting firm of Coutinho Caro to build up its trade and contacts in what was not yet known as the "developing world".

Neal Ascherson

Ulrich Hollaender (Michael Thomas), businessman: born Berlin 7 November 1915: married Elizabeth Dring (two sons, one daughter); died Hamburg 25 September 1995.

Professor Michael Balfour

In his obituary of Professor raries; when one bears in mind Michael Balfour [28 September] the high prices such literary doc-Leonard Miall rightly gives uments now command it was a prominence to his distinguished generous gift indeed. He later career as an historian and public servant. Can I add a foomote on his lifelong interest in Robert Louis Stevenson? writes Ernest

against the Nazis."

Balfour lived at Vailima and became a close friend of Stevenson in the last years of his life; he wrote the authorised biography of his famous cousin in 1901. In 1960, drawing on a mass of unpublished material, Michael published two authoritative articles in the Times Literary Supplement on how his father came to write the biography and he followed it up 20 years later by a lecture in Edinburgh. He gave to the National Library of Scotland all his father's papers connected with the writing of the biography, including not only letters by RLS himself but letters by Henry James and other contempo-

gave to the library his father's fournals and letters written from the South Seas. This material is a treasure trove for the Stevenson scholar and I used it Stevenson's Letters.

Michael Balfour derived great pleasure from his family link with Stevenson. He and 1 corresponded for over 30 years about RLS: he lent me original letters and elucidated family references in a way that no one else could have done. In the last 18 months of his life when his failing health meant that he was not able to carry out any original work he generously read the galley proofs of the eight volumes of the Letters and sent many corrections and lively comments.

He was the last link with those who knew Stevenson well:

Anti-Defamation League of

B'nai B'rith to campaign for leg-islation against anti-Semitism.

अपूर्वित कार्यक अपूर्ण का नव्हास्त्र

A.L. "B" Botnick, civil rights activist, died New Orleans 5 October, aged 71. Worked against the Ku Klux Klan in Louisiana

1 sainte his memory. and Mississippi, and with the

Births. Marriages & Deaths

BIRTHS

MALTBY: To Emma (nee Rawson) and Alexander, a daughter, Amelia Dorothy, and a son, Louis Peter, born 10 October at Chebea and West-

GALBRAITH: On 11 October 1995, JALBRATTH: On 11 October 1995, peacefully in hospital after a brief illness, Henry Douglas, aged 77 years, former Head of Classics at Bedford School, Funeral service will take place at Bedford School Chapel on Tuesday 17 October at 12 noon, No dowers please, donations if desired for Bedford Hospital Nurses Fund may be sent to Arnolds Funeral Service, Roff Avenue, Bedford Mk14 TTE. Telephone 01234-359529.

MALIM: Peacefully and with courage. on 10 October, aged 81, Theodora Kathryn Malim, beloved wife of the late David Weotworth Malim and mother of Anthea, Lavinia and Hugh, Funcral private. Service of thanks-giving at All Saints' Church, Great Chesterford, on Thursday 19 October at 2.30pm. No flowers, but donations may be sent to Hertfordshire Asso-ciation for the Disabled, Woodside Centre. The Commons, Welwyn Gar-den City, Hertfordshire AL7 4DD. oen City, Heritorusanie AL7 4DD. PACKHAM: Leonard George, of Eve-sham, peacefully at Warwick Hospi-tal, on to October 1995, aged 87. Beloved busband of Ethel, father and grandfather. A private cremation will take place shortly. Donations, if desired, for Eye Therapy Unit, Chel-tenham, to Philip Tomlins, 36 The Levs, Eyesham, Worcestershire.

Birthdays

Lady Brook, founder, Advisory Centre for Young People, 88; Professor Julie! Cheetham, sociologist, 56; Dang Elizabeth Chesterton, architect, 80; Mr Jaroslav Drobny, former tennis player, 74; Mr Kenneth Griffith, actor, writer and documentary film maker, 74; Mr Robert Heron former director. Duke of Edintorner director, Duke of Edin-burgh's Award Scheme, 68: Mr Jonathan Holborow, Editor, Mail on Sunday, 52; Mr Magnus Magnusson, broadcaster and writer, 66; Dr John Molfatt, former Provost, The Queen's College, Oxford, 73: Mr Rick Parfitt, guitar player and singer, 47: Vice-Admiral Sir John Parker, 80; Mr Lucian Pharmacher, 80; Mr Luciano Pavarotti, operatic tenor, 60; Miss Angela Rippon, television presenter, 51; Sir Archibold Ross, for-mer diplomat, 84; Mr David Threlfall, actor, 42; Mr Michael Verey, merchant banker, 83: Mr Nigel Waterson MP, 45; Sir David White, chairman, Nottingham Health Authority, 66; Mr David

Young MP, 65. Anniversaries

Births: Edward VL; King of England 1537: Max Friedlander, baritone and writer, 1852; James Ramsny Mar-Donald, statesman, 1866; Ralph Vaughan Williams, composer, 1872; Aleister Edward Alexander Crowley, author and occultist, 1875. Deaths: Piero della Francesca, painter and writer, 1492; Elizabeth Fry (Gurney), Quaker prison reformer, 1845; Robert Stephenson, civil engineer, grandfather. A private cremation will take place shortly. Donations, if desired, for Eye Therapy Unit, Cheltenham, to Philip Tomlins, 36 The Levs, Evesham, Worcestershire WRtt 5AR Enquiries to 01386 765135.

For Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS please telephone 0171-293 2411.

Issigonis was produced at Cowley. Oxfordshire, 1948; the first London production of the musical show Little Shop of Horrors was presented, 1983. Today is the Feast Day of St Edwin, St Ethelburga of Barking, Saints Felix and Cyprian, St Maximilian of Lorch and St Wilfrid of York.

Lectures National Gallery: Alexander Sturgis, "The Northern Renaissance (ii): Memlinc, The Donne Thiptych", 1pm. British Museum: Tim Clark, "Uta-maro and the Yoshiwara Pleasure Quarter", 1.15pm.
National Portrait Gallery: Michael
Cassin, "Prince Henry Benedict
Stewart: brother of the Bonnie Prince", 1.10pm.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Bert Hardy, photographer, will be held at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street London EC4. on Wednesday 8 November 1995 at 12 noon.

Bert Hardy

Luncheons Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge, Chief of the Defence Staff, was the host at a luncheon held yesterday in Admi-ralty House, London SW1, in hon-our of General Owe Wiktorin, Armed Forces.

Royal College of

Surgeons Sir Reginald Murley delivered the Thomas Vicary Lecture yesterday at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, London WC2. Professor Donald Baritrop, Master, presided to the Alexandre of Regions and Statements of Regions ber-Surgeons' Hall, London EC2. Sir Rodney Sweetman, President, Sin Reginald Murley and Mr Barry Jackon were the speakers.

Association of Wrens

The Princess Royal attended a service to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Association of Wiens heid yesterday in St Paul's Cathedral, London EC4. The Ven Michael Bucks, Chaplain of the Fleet, was the preacher. Mrs Marjorie Intlah, Chairman of the Association, and Miss Daphne Blundell, President eceived the guests.

British Red Cross

Princess Alexandra, Vice-President, British Red Cross, presented the Muriel Monkhouse Award for exceptional delivery of the Red Cross Tracing Service to Mr Derest Lind-say, on behalf of Mr William Lind-say, at a reception held yesterday at the Financial Times, London SE1 Mrs Elspeth Thomas, Chainnan of Council, British Red Cross, Mr David Bell, chief executive, Enuncial Times, Mr Geoffrey Dennis Direc-tor, International Division, British Red Cross, Miss Sandra Singer, Head of International Vellare, British Red Cross, and Miss Muriel Monkhouse; were the speakers.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Princest Rayal, President, Riding for the Disabled Association, amending Council Meeting at Saidlers' Hall, Londin, ECZ. The Dwikers of Giocester, Patros, National Asthura Campaign, attends the 1995 Asthura Gib Pair at the Harlingham Chib, London SW6. The Duke of Kest's Vesiry See Duke of Kest's School, Barhust, Crantellis, Surrey. Changing of the Guard
The Household Creaky Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Green's Life Guard at Horse

Action for damp problem is statute barred Wilson v Le Fevre Wood & Royle:

LAW REPORT Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Evans, Lord Justice Morritt and

In April 1987 the plaintiff L September 1995 made a renewed complaint which the defendant declined Although consulting a solicitor was not enough to fix a plainto deal with. In the spring of tiff with acquiring the relevant knowledge for bringing an ac-tion for damages, on the facts the plaintiff had the requisits 1987 he consulted the citizens' advice burean and in May 1987 he consulted Heringtons, solicitors, who issued a writ knowledge before he consultagainst the defendant on 16 July 1990. The issue was

ed solicitors and acquired the knowledge more than three whether the plaintiff first had years before his writ was issued. the knowledge required for bringing an action for damages The Court of Appeal alafter 16 July 1987, when expert lowed the defendant's appeal against Judge Kennedy QC's advice was received, so as to avoid the action from being decision on a preliminary issue statute barred under section that the plaintiff's claim in 14A of the Limitation Act negligence against the defen-

dant was not statute barred. The judge found that in 1983 the plaintiff accepted the In 1981 the plaintiff's bungalow was damaged and, defendant's professional opinthrough insurers, the defendant ion of the cause of the damp firm of architects and surveyand the plaintiff first had ors undertook the supervision of the repair work. The plainknowledge that the damp was tiff resumed occupation in earattributable to the act or omisly 1983 and suffered serious sion of the defendant after 16 problems with damp. The plaintiff believed that defects in July 1987. the way the house had been re-

Paul Parker (Reynolds Porter Chamberlain) for the defendant; Richard Deighton (Cooper Carter Claremont)

Lord Justice Hutchison said that the alleged negligence oc-curred, at latest, in early 1983. whether the plaintiff first had "the knowledge required for bringing an action for damages' before or after July 1987; sec-tion 14(A)(5). Only by bring-ing himself within that provision could the plaintiff avoid the consequences of the ordinary rule that actions for negligence not involving personal injury or death must be

accrual of the cause of action. It was for the plaintiff to prove a date within three years of the commencement of proceedings when he acquired the relevant knowledge. On the basis of the plaintiff's pleading, the plaintiff acquired the relevant knowledge on the basis of advice in September 1987 but it was now known to have been

brought within six years of the

given in May 1987. Merely to show that solicitors had been consulted was not enough to fix the plaintiff with constructive knowledge: there must be an allowance of time for the person consulted to get such information as he needed to give advice.

Even accepting that consulting a solicitor was not conclusive evidence against s plaintiff on the issue of when The critical question was the relevant knowledge of at-

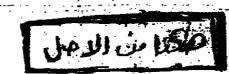
tributability had been acquired. on the facts it was not open to the judge to find that the plaintiff did not have the requisite knowedge in May 1987 when he

consulted solicitors. There was evidence from which it was clear that the plaintiff had the requisite knowledge after April 1987 when they finally rejected the defendant's assertions about condensation. From an early stage, in 1983, the plaintiff knew of the facts which led him to the conviction that the damp problems was attributable to the defendant's acts or omissions. Even if he was willing to give the defendant a chance to prove the correctness of its diagnosis, in April 1987 he reverted to his former belief and took advice.

The writ was not issued within three years of the date when the plaintiff first acquired the requisite knowledge, It was open to serious doubt whether in a case such as the present it was wise to have a preliminary issue. There should always be a careful and rigorous analysis of the possible advantage and disadvantages, particularly in regard to costs, of such a course.

Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Evans agreed.

Ying Hui Tan, Barrister



built gave rise to severe rising

damp and complained to the defendant. The defendant in-

formed him that the problem .

was one of condensation and

the property needed time to dry

CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

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\$ 18.01 -\$0.02 18.25 RPI 149.9 3.6pc 2.4 12 Oct 384.50 -\$0.75 388.25 GDP - 2.8pc 4.1 23 Oct 244.52 +£0.38 245.49 Base Rates - 8.75pc 5.25 -

IN BRIEF

The Asda chief, Archie Norman, said that he would give up his political amhitions to continue to build the recovery of the supermarket group which he had revived. Mr Norman, who took

over Asda in 1991, had been mentioned as n possible candidate

Treasury accused in Knight Williams fight

are expected to show worries among leading gilt edged market

makers (GEMS) about the cost implications of a new system.

Jim Manzi, chief executive officer of the Lotus Development

lieve made me an effective chief executive of a nearly hillion-

required of an executive leading a division within a much larg-

Shares in Fokker, the Dutch planemaker owned by Germany's

Daimler-Benz, fell 22 per cent amid rumours that it was about

to file for protection against creditors. The planemaker is strug-

Lotus chief to step down after merger

'The sort of costs involved will be intolerable for at least three

Asda chief gives up political hopes

for Alan Howarth's seat at Stratford-on-Avon.

rejected every specific request for help.

vears," said one head of market making.

Rumours hit Fokker share price

Cost fear over gilts settlement plan

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Executive pay, page 25

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BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171-293 2548 fax 0171-293 2098

MARKET SUMMARY North West stuns rival with raised 12 Min Red 12 Min Law York Co 3919.8 3300.9 3.5 1477.0 3.9 bid for Rec

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

Norweb, the regional electricity company, succumbed to at-tack from North West Water after a renewed £1.83bn offer

The size of the offer surprised the City and was met with a resounding silence from North West's rival bidder, Texas Energy Partners, which is now expected to turn its attention to another electricity target.

The revised offer values each Norweh share at £11.70 with a cash alternative of £11.50, com-pared with Texas Energy's lat-est cash offer of £10.85. For Norweh shareholders, who can

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1	Target Blotter
	Southern National Power
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Unconditional Northern Abandoned . North West Weller

£ (London) 0.6359 +0.22 0.6323 to 1,207.5p per share. The price per share is regarded as extremely high Yes (London) 100.89 +Y0.34 100.33 against Hanson's agreed bid for Eastern Electricity at £9.75, and the £10.10 per share tabled by National Power in its proposed friendly takeover of Southern Electric.

Shares in North West Water, which huilt its stake in Norweb to 25 per cent yesterday, fell by 22p to 573p. One City analyst said: "This is very, very over-priced. The shareholders I am talking to are not happy."

There is a view that North West'a determination to win

Norweb is driven by the desire of the company's chairman, Sir Desmond Pitcher, to build a regional super-utility in the north west of England. But Brian Staples, North West's chief ex-ecutive, flatly rejected the suggestion that his company has gone too far. He said the takeover would still be earnings enhancing in the first full year and that interest cover and the gearing of the enlarged group would remain "prudent". He went on: "I can tell you

that North West's board have determined a position which we would never go beyond. The multi-utility created through the merger of North West Water and Norweb, with their substantially overlapping customer bases, will be uniquely placed to deliver efficiency savings, which will bring benefits to both customers and shareholders."

There is concern in the City about the regulatory and political risks facing the enlarged group, which would fall under the scrutiny of Offer and Ofwat, and be subject to two price control regimes. One analyst also stressed the potential problems of integrating the two husi-nesses, and the fact that the water group has oo experience in the electricity sector.

Ofwat, the water industry regulator, has already warned that it oeeds to be convinced that the takeover will not compromise North West's ability to fund its core water and sewage operations. Ofwat and Offer reclaim tax on the special dividend element of the price, have prepared a joint submission on the proposed bid for the Office of Pair Trading, which will North West's offer is worth up advise the Government on whether the bid should be referred to the Mooopolies and Mergers Commission.

The revised offer coincided with a renewed call by the Labour Party for the entire industry to be referred to the MMC in the light of the surge of hids for regional firms. The board of Norweb said it

had "no reason to expect Texas Energy Partners will revise its current offer ... and intends to recommend shareholders to accept the further increased offer from North West".

Cash-for-poor plea by

new World Bank head

US Congress is urged to approve aid and 'put a smile on a child's face'

mestic purposes will lead to ate a "results culture", he huge costs later. It is in the said. "We must focus on our huge costs later. It is in the said. "We must focus on our ic approval process but by the donor's own self-interest to clients and results and break smile on a child's face when a maintain an adequate level of the armlock that, I sense, bu-

reaucracy has placed on this support." reaucracy has placed on this
But be also wanted to creinstitution. If we do that then Photograph: Charles TasmadilAP

we will create a more profound change than any structural reorganisation," he said. Mr Wolfensohn went nn: "I

have learned that the real test of development can be measured not by the hureaucratproject is successful."

Fisons gives in to RPR

MAGNUS GRIMOND

Washington — The new president of the World Bank has

issued an impassioned plea to

the US Coogress to approve funds for aid to the world's

poorest countries, writes Di-

James Wolfensohn (pic-

tured above at the annual meeting of the IMF-World

Bank) said earlier this week: Money saved now for do-

ane Coyle.

The drugs group Fisons has given in to the £1.8bo raised bid from Rhone-Poulenc Rorer after the collapse of discussions with an unnamed white knight. The board, led by chief executive Stuart Wallis, yesterday recommended the 265p offer, raised from 240p last week, nine days ahead of the closing date on 20 October.

The news came as a surprise as Mr Wallis has strenuously resisted the bid and only last week dismissed the higher offer. saying it continued to undervalue the company. Explaining his apparent volte face, he said yesterday the board had already coocluded before receiving the increased offer that it

was in a range they would he prepared to accept. "We would have even been prepared to accept a little lower than that", he What had prevented them

was an approach from a major pharmaceutical company, which had led them to believe that more attractive proposals might be put before shareholders. Mr Wallis refused to reveal the identity of the putative white knight, although there were rumours that it was a Continental rival of RPR. There was some surprise that the board had decided to recommend the hid without waiting for the closing date to see if another bidder would enter the fray.

Mr Wallis dismissed any suggestion that there had been

used to reward the effort and skill involved."
Under the executive share op-

tion scheme, the TSB's chief ex-

ecutive, Peter Ellwood stands to

make a paper profit of £2m on his 838,893 share options, while

TSB's chairman, Sir Nicholas

Goodison, could make £1.63m.

hank would retain TSB's mer-

chant bank, Hill Samuel, be-

cause of its fund management

and private banking activities.

quired an Act of Parliament

which he hoped would go

and subsidiary companies will

go as a result of this merger.

Sir Robin said the merger re-

Sir Brian Pitman said the new

been "very loyal and supportive". However, many have defected from his cause during the last few weeks, with yesterday's sale by Sun Life of Canada building on a market raid last week to take the hidder's hold-Robert Cawthorn, chairman

shareholders, who he said had

of RPR, was yesterday delighted at Fisons' acceptance of the revised offer, which followed allnight negotiations between the two sides. "We are very pleased that this was a very good price for Fisons, which has been recognised by the board."

step, once the bid went unconditional, would be to seek further information on Fisons and set up

pressure from institutional a small integration team involving both sides to see how to proceed with the merger of the businesses. There would be redundancies, with one area of obvious overlap being the two companies' respiratory sales forces in the US. But job losses from the combined team of 400 suggested in some quarters.

Mcanwhile, Fisons' development base for inhalant devices in Loughborough, Leicestershire, is likely to be expanded. The site is held on a lease from Astra of Sweden for five years. It was too early to say whether the 200 staff there would be Mr Cawthorn said the next merged with RPR's UK research and development operation at Dagenham, Mr Cawthorne said.

High street banking: Merged group starts looking for fresh acquisitions, while rival goes for fund manager

Lloyds seeks new target

JOHN WILLCOCK

The Treasury was accused yesterday of spurning a battle for com-pensation by elderly investors caught up in the collapse of Knight Williams, the failed financial adviser. The investors' action group Lloyds Bank and TSB unveiled claim that a letter from Angela Knight, the Treasury Minister, details of their £15bn merger yesterday, including £350m of cost savings per year by 1997 - and immediatly started talking about the next possible Bank of England proposals for a new gilts settlement system to run alongside Crest are hitting serious objections among mar-ket makers. Replies to a consultative document from the Bank

Lloyds' shares soared 490 to 769p and TSB's shares closed 18p up at 368p as the City welcomed the banks' joint statement on projected cost savings. Some analysts suggested that the bank had implied that sav-ings could potentially be even higher than forecast.

Lloyds and TSB hit out at Corp, said he was resigning just three months after the software company was bought by IBM for \$3.5bn. "The attributes I bespeculation on job losses, urged unions to drop their opposition to the deal and reaffirmed the dollar independent company, aren't necessarily the attributes future of the branch network. They said they would keep TSB's merchant hank, Hill Samuel, and would allow TSB Scotland to remain registered in Edinburgh as a separate entity. Sir Robin Ibbs, Lloyds' chair-

> main watchful" of further consolidation in the financial services sector. If a possible target added value and sbared Lloyds' culture then "we would take it seriously". The merged bank would genyears so it was not constrained

man and chairman-designate of

the new bank, said it would "re-

erate surplus capital in a few by resources if a bid opportunity arose, said Sir Brian Pitman, Lloyds' chief executive. "The gaps between winners and losers is widening, not just in the UK but all over the world."

Sir Robin hit out at "alarmist figures" on job losses in the press while refusing to give any himself. "Clearly there will be a number of job reductions but the magnitude will depend on how the economy performs and the degree of success of this merger," he said. He said the vast majority of jub cuts would be by natural staff turnover,



Nodding terms: Sir Brian Pitman (left) and Sir Nicholas Goddison at the launch of Lloyds TSB yesterday

Profile of the new group

Profit before tex £1,304m £504m £219m £2,027m

Shareholders tunds 123,661m 21,332m 21,009m 24,800m

Market capitalisation 29,400m 25,200m - £13,600m

Stranches 1,800 1,100 240 3,140 Quatomers 7m 7.5m 1.3m 15.6m

otel costs - £2,473m £1,123m £121m £3,726m

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Total income 23,885m 21,915m 2978m

Average staff numbers: 62,120 26,860 3,106

Depletion 188 1986 Dec 1884 - Oct 1884 - Dec 1884

which currently stands at 6,000 a year for the combined bank. He said that by cutting out duplication there would be "one of everything" - one head office instead of two, one treasury operation, one hranch technology system and so on.

Sir Rohin said: "Any change can cause worries but in my experience people like to work for the winning team. The merger will be good for people all aligning the interests of share-round and it will lead to better holders with directors." he said. services and keener prices."

Although Lloyds will eod up owning 70.4 per cent of the new bank following the merger, this did not mean Lloyds' operations would necessarily be chosen, he

Sir Robin also strongly defended windfall profits from share options that the TSB board members stand to make under the merger. He said that just because there had been a row about share options in the utilities, this should not "cast a shadow" across options as such. There is an idea there is something disreputable about options but it is a recognised way of aligning the interests of share-

there is an opportunity for top management to participate. At the TSB there has been a remarkable improvement in profits over the last three years and said. "It depends which is best." the share price has reflected

£81:40n £34.70n £19.40n £135.50n

through "hefore the end of the Bifu, the bank union, pledged vesterday to fight the merger, if necessary by challenging the move in Parliament. It believes up to 10.000 jobs and 500 branches are at risk. Leif Mills, Bifu's general secretary, said: "It is already clear that thousands of jobs in head office departments, branches

"Just about the only people "If the share price does well to benefit from this merger will be the top executives who will get a fat bounty for the destruction of the TSB, an historic bank that has traditional roots with working men and women and young people."

£6,178m

What shareholders get For 1 Lloyds share 2.704 shares in the new Lloyds TSB group valued at For 1 TSB share

1 share in the new Lloyds TSB group valued at 284.2p plus 68.3p cash dividend

plus 16p tax credit for some

Based on Lloyds' closing price of 769p last night

NatWest joins the tussle to win Gartmore

JOHN WILLCOCK

Nat West group is vying with several Continental banks for the prize of Gartmore, the UK fund manager. Having failed to acquire first Baring Asset Management, and then Mercury Asset Management at the time of the sale of SG Warburg, the UK bank is anxious not to lose out a third time.

Germany's Dresdner Bank and the Dutch giant ABN-Amro are also believed to be among the front-runners. This spring Dresdner bought

the British merchant bank Kleinwort Benson, which has a relatively weak fund management husiness. ABN-Amro already owns the hroker Hoare Govett, but has said repeatedly that it wants to expand its fund management activities as part of its global investment banking ambitions.

Late last month the troubled French Banque Indosuez said it was putting its 75 per cent stake in Gartmore up for sale. The market values the company at more than £550m, and any bidder would be expected to pay a hefty premium for control of Gartmore.

NetWest is looking significantly to expand its fund management business, which it sees as a key to building its retail financial services husiness in

general. It sees a bigger asset man-

agement business as enhancing the scope of what it can offer its retail customers.

Gartmore has £24hn in funds under management, with a strong showing in UK pension funds. It lacks much investment trust business, however.

The American group GE Capital and ING, owner of Barings, have also been mentioned in the City as leading

hidders. Nationsbank of the US has a joint venture with Gartmore and as such has first refusal over up to a quarter of the British fund manager's shares. Any deal will have to be agreeable to the American hank, and it may well be a bidder itself.

Paul Myners, executive chairman of Gartmore, yesterday said: "No comment.

Dresdner also yesterday declined to comment on a newspaper report that it was interested in buying the Indosuez stake. "A flat no comment," said the Dresdner spokesman, Thomas Holm. Gartmore's shares rose 10p

to 276p on the speculation. The German newspaper Suddeutsche Zeitung said Banque Indosuez had started talks with the German bank, citing informed sources. The paper said the top po-

tential buyers were Dresdner Bank. West LB and BHF Bank. Gartmore, which reported pre-tax profits of £16.2m for the six months to 30 June 1995, has been in the hid frame ever since US and German banks started nibbling at the UK fi-

nancial sector. Any buyer will have to provide "golden handcuffs" to retain staff.

The announcement that indosuez was selling reignited speculation about other UK fund managers such as Mercury Asset Management, Perpetual and the Anglo-American

Comment, page 25

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 $e^{i \mathcal{G}^{(n)}}$ $\langle y_{\rm S}, \mu_{\rm S}\rangle^{\rm corr}$ gling to survive after a series of record losses. Daimler's recent restructuring package was rejected by the Dutch government.

Leeson 'will not contest SFO move' The lawyer representing the former Barings futures trader Niek

Leeson said he does not intend to appear in court today to put any arguments over the Serious Fraud Office's decision to withdraw eight summonses issued against his client in a private prosecution. The proceedings to date have involved the Barings bondholders and the SFO, a statement said, and oeither Mr Leeson nor his lawyers have any proper role within them.

EC aid proposed for steel company

The European Commission is recommending £28.6m in state aid linked to the sale of Irish Steel to ISPAT International. The Commission said it could not require Irish Steel to cut capacity, but would impose other conditions, including a five-year cap on production and strict monitoring. The Commission decided in recommend the aid because independent consultants had concluded that the new company would be viable, especially since an experienced private steel operator was prepared to invest significant capital in it. The aid package will go before EU industry ministers on 6 November for approval.

Green budget: Influential forecast says the Chancellor has room for manoeuvre but says jury is out on plans for public spending cuts

Tax cuts of only £2-3bn predicted

Economics Editor

The 1995 budget will mark a return to tax cuts but they will be on a modest scale of £2bn-£3bn, according to the influential "greeo budget" pre-sented by the Institute for Fiscal Studies and Goldman Sachs. Such a reduction would be consistent with a public sector borrowing requirement in 1996/7 of £17bn, £4bn higher than the level projected by the Treasury in the 1994 budget.

A combination of spending cuts, offsetting tax rises and toleratioo of an increase in the PSBR would allow cuts in taxation which would be concentrated on income tax. "Such a budget would not offend agains the principles of sound public finance we bave advocated in the past," the report said.

However, the authors of the report warned that they had "considerable doubts" about the ability of the Government to cut spending in real terms to 1995/96. "The jury is still out on

whether the tight spending current lower band in which tax-plans for the future will be re-able income is taxed at 20 per alised, whether plans will be relaxed in the run-up to the election or whether cash plans will be tighteoed to account for small oversboots in 1994/95 and 1995/96."

Presenting the 1995 "green budget" the IFS Director, Andrew Dilnot, said that £3bn would pay for a cut in the basic rate of tax from 25 to 23.5 per ceot. An increase of £450 in allowances was much more equitable but lacked the same punch. A more arresting package, he suggested, might be to achieve a basic rate of 20 per cent in one fell swoop. This would be achieved by raising the

Increase in PSBR

cent from £3,200 to £11,225. At that level, there would be

more taxpayers paying at 20 per cent than at 25 per ceot. However, this would involve limiting the relief on persooal allowances to 20 per cent, just as the relief oo the married couple's allowance has been reduced to 15 per ceot.

Mr Dilnot thought that a windfall tax on the utilities was not likely but that the Government might use the threat of one to get regulators to push for more rebates for customers. The best solution to monopoly abuses by the utility com-

regulation rather than the Government appropriating these monopoly profits through taxation," the report said.

Outright abolition of stamp duty on the house purchase was less likely than an increase in its threshold from £60,000 to £100,000, Mr Dilnot said. He also questioned current taxation on drinks, which he described as "pretty bizarre." Mr Dilnot said there was a case for reducing taxes on spirits since the increase in demand might actually boost revenue. Taxes on beer could, however, safely be

raised to raise receipts. Despite the eoergetic lobbying of the Institute of Directors panies would be tighter for abolition of capital gains tax,

this did not figure in the green budget. According to Mr Dilnot, CGT is "a finger in the dyke" necessary to prevent the conversion of income tax into capital gains. Its abolition would to substantial tax

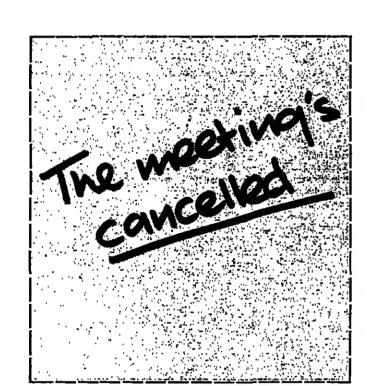
The trajectory for public borrowing laid out by the green budget would be consistent with a deficit of 2.1 per cent next year and eventual near bal-ance by 1998/9. According to Gavyn Davies of Goldman Sachs this highlighted the polential for a relaxation of budgetary policy under a Labour

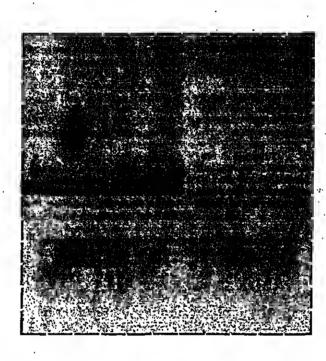
The leeway arose because Gordon Brown's "golden rule" of borrowing no higher than investment was less restrictive than the Government's plan to restore balance to the public finances before the end of the decade. By permitting a PSBR of around 1.5 to 2.5 per cent of GDP, this created "considerable fiscal scope" for Labour, amounting to £12bn in 1997/8 and as much as £18bn in 1998/9.



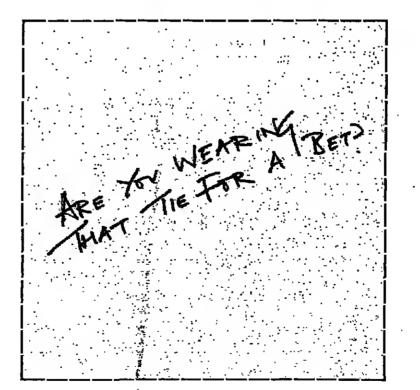
The Chancellor's famous red box: when its contents are revealed next month, will they follow today's 'green' outline?

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Unit trusts made to reveal managing cost

NIC CICUTTI

Tens of thousands of savers in unit and investment trusts are to be told for the first time the cash cost of managing their funds, ending years of argument within the financial services

industry.
The Personal Investment Authority, the leading financial watchdog, said yesterday it would require fund managers to disclose their charges to clieots before their products can be sold. The proposals bring unit and investment trusts further into line with life and pensions products, where a similar regime has been in force since the beginning of the year.

David Peffer, the PIA's secretary, said vesterday that exact details for the unit and investment trust industry will be published shortly. Comments oo some of the technical aspects will be sought before the oew rules become operational by the middle of next year.

comed yesterday by sections of the industry. Philip Warland, di-rector general at the Associatioo of Unit Trust and Investmeot Funds, said: "PIA board members and our staff have worked very closely... on these proposals. We are pleased they have been approved and look forward to seeing the

The key elements to be disclosed under the oew rules will be a statement of both initial and on-going charges - in cash terms - on a nominal lump sum. Fund managers will bave to provide an additional table showing the build-up of charges on an investment over time.

Where some companies, for

example M&G, impose exit charges on savers who liquidate their investments early, the cost of doing so will also have to be

A further example will have to be given of the charges in cas-es where the original investment has doubled. This is seen as important in that the annual management levy is imposed on the overall lump sum, which may be growing thanks to investment

The information will be in a document handed to potential investors before they buy a product. Exceptions will be allowed where the investment is bought over the telephone or by

Mr Peffer said: "It may be to investors' advantage to carry out a transaction quickly. In that case, delaying the purchase until a key features document is sent out may not be to their beoefit."

A cooling-off period will be allowed for investors who want

The PIA's decision brings to an eod years of wrangling betweeo financial regulators and the unit and investment trust industry, which regularly attacked as unworkable earlier proposals by the PLA and its

Hundreds of millions of pounds of unit and investment trusts are sold each mooth to

new investors. Supporters of the new disclosure regime have long argued that savers should be told exactly bow much an investment will cost them. The life industry was forced to tell its clieots what the cost of commissions and other charges are on a life insurance or pension product.

Cable directive due next week

MATHEW HORSMAN

Adoption of the European Commission's cable directive, aimed at liberalising telecommunications markets in Europe, has been delayed by a week for "purely technical rea-sons," according to sources in Brussels. It is now lodged with the translation service and will not be officially adopted until after the weekeod, the sources

The subject of an intense lobbying campaign from BT, the directive is aimed at ensuring competitioo in what the Commission calls non-reserved telecoms services - including home sbopping, multimedia, closed business octworks and data transmission. It does not cover voice telephony, which is due to be completely liberalised by 1 January 1998

BT had boped that the Commissioo would adopt an amendment - as proposed by the European Parliament - that would bave given telecoms operators the right to broadcast over their phone networks. But the Commission declined to accept the parliameotary amendment, to BT's regret. The company said yesterday it would have preferred to see the Commissioo supporting the view expressed by the European Parliament.

Currectly, BT is forbidden to use its network to broadcast au-

dio-visual services in the UK until at least 2002, wheo the prohibition is to be reviewed. Last week, BT and the Labour Party unveiled an agreement under which the ban would be lifted in exchange for BT cabling every school, hospital, university and local authority in the

The directive is scheduled to go into effect in 1996, bringing early competition to markets where the main telecoms operator has a monopoly or dominant position. The EC is keep to encourage competitors such as cable companies and utilities to develop alternative telecom infrastructures in advance of full

liberalisatioo in 1998. The freedom to provide nonreserved services would also exteod to telecom companies from other EC countries.

At home, BT already faces direct competitioo in voice telephony from the cable industry and from other service providers such as Mercury. It argues that the rest of Europe needs to move more quickly toward building a liberalised market.

The Commission has taken a hard line with Continental telecoms operators, insisting for example on concessions from Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom before approving their cootroversial joint venture. But BT has been frustrated with the slow pace of reform.

new rule



COMMENT

"There is no way of

making a sensible

an ordinary and a

simply a way of

one-off'

distinction between

special dividend - the

name of the latter is

indicating that it is a

business



A dubious distinction with a weighty impact

Tirst there was the enhanced scrip dividend. Then the share buy-back. Now we have the special dividend, the latest examino easy solution. The tax benefits are rooted slim and margins even slimmer, is increasples of which are contained in yesterday's takeover bids by Lloyds Bank for TSB and North West Water for Norweb. The City's ingeninty in depriving the Exchequer of cor-poration tax and delivering the benefits to tax-exempt shareholders (mostly pension

funds), knows no bounds. All these schemes involve entirely legitimate use of the existing tax system - but oo a scale and in a way that was surely not anticpated by officials. The basic principle is simple enough: cash payments by companies to tax-exempt institutions among their share-holders are topped up with a tax credit. This seems entirely reasonable in the ordinary course of dividend payments. But when it involves very substantial repayment of capital, sometimes linked to a takeover bid, it is open to abuse. With a special dividend, institutions claim a tax credit that increases the value of the payout by 25 per cent. On the face of it, this is a ridiculous and unjus-tifiable subsidy that threatens to drain bil-lions from the Treasury as companies and their advisers catch onto it.

But the problem, as the Institute for Fiscal Studies pointed out in its Green Budget, is that there is no way of making a sensible in the longstanding use of advance corpo-ration tax. This is a misnomer. ACT is in fact an advance payment of shareholders' income tax, and that is why tax-exempt institutions receive a credit on their dividends.

The only sensible way for the Chancellor to get out of this hole without causing chaos is to reform the taxation of dividends to remove the distortions caused by these credits. But when Stephen Dorrell flirted with the idea last year while at the Treasury he was jumped on from a great height. The market's reaction to Norman Lamont's Elbn raid on the institutions' tax credits in the 1993 Budget had already signalled the dangers for a Thry government of tamper-ing in this area. The chances of Kenneth Clarke having another go appear slim, but reform is overther. reform is overdue.

Lloyds' techno love-in with TSB

Cir Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds, Shardly comes across as an archetypal techno-freak, but in business today you have

slim and margins even slimmer, is increas-ingly about leveraging size.

With this deal, Lloyds and TSB hope to

have stulen a march on their rivals by achieving, at a stroke, a much bigger branch network and customer base along with considerable scope for paring back costs. But that of course is the rationale behind all such big mergers. The hard part is pulling it off.

Technology will play a decisive role here. Sir Brian becomes almost delirious when describing the competitive edge of Cheltenham & Gloucester's information retrieval system, which Lloyds is now applying throughout its mortgage business. Now the idea is to take the best banking IT system. probably the TSB's, for the combined group, The potential for back-office savings, by extending an already developed system, would be significant, possibly worth more than £100m a year by itself. The elimination of duplication in back-office and headquarter staff and functions, before even getting onto the branch network, suggests that Sir Brian and his TSB counterpart, Peter Eli-

wood, are, if anything, heing rather cautious on the cost-saving potential. Rather than the £350m of annual savings, is that there is no way of making a sensible to be. Information technology, and the distinction hetween an ordinary and a special dividend - the name of the latter is simply a way of indicating that it is a one-off. Banning them would simply switch corpo
That and size. Sir Brian believes that suctored the savings, which corpo
Rather than the 253tm of annual savings, or 9 per cent of the combined cost base, that they are talking about, the real potential banking, is one of the main driving forces behind the proposed link-up with the TSB.

That and size. Sir Brian believes that suctored to achieve a stock market valuation of

dividend, and watch the upside.

Assuming it can be got through the competition authorities, this is a superb deal for Lloyds. The geographical fit, with TSB's Nurthern and Scottish bias complementing Lloyd's Southern stronghold, suggest that the branch reductions may not have to be severe. The strength of the fit, and the fact that Sir Brian and Mr Ellmore are having the hanking equivalent of a love-in, makes the task of any late rival hidder pretty difficult. The agreed nature of the hid, and the fact that Linyds/TSB will not have a dominant share of any market, should reduce the chances of an MMC referral.

NatWest gears up for Gartmore

Cir Brian Pitman is not the only one with Da glint in the eye. The boys from Nat West are oo heat again. They are to be found serenading ardently beneath Gartmore's bal-cony. Twice recently they have lunged up the aisle, only to see Barings and Warburg carried off by a rival suitor. Will it be third time lucky? Nat West is impatient to push on with its plans to be a global investment hanking powerhouse. The money is there and it in-tends to use it. There is no talk of a share huy-hack at the top of NatWest. Once the brace themselves.

£15bn. To see the potential just take the combined present stock market value of the two companies, £13bn, subtract the £1bn special chest will be brimfull. Reading the runes, NatWest is preparing far purchases on both sides of the Atlantic. There appear to be three thoughts driving NatWest strategy. Strong corporate finance hrings essential value to a securities house. A large fund management operation enhances the profitability of a hank's retail husiness. And to win global investment banking deals you must have a

strong presence in the US.

Gartmore would fit NatWest's fund management needs admirably, despite the fancy prices on demand these days. Corporate fmance in London poses more of a problem, mainly because there are few eligible partners. Nat West Markets presents an uncomfortable imbalance, with a strong equities business and a corporate finance side still scarred by the traumas of County. It is to the US. however, that shareholders will be looking nervously. It has proven a graveyard for British investment banks. But those with global amhitions realise that there is no halfhearted approach to New York. This applies equally to BZW, Deutsche. SBC and UBS. The only question is who moves first. NatWest, which already has the higgest US equities operation among foreigners, appears to be mulling either having a medium-sized securities house, or a joint-venture, having part of a US firm or setting up a new partnership. Investors should

de to reve naging

Exchange told to delay new rules on top pay

PETER RODGERS

Leading companies have been pressing the Stock Exchange to delay implementation of new rules an tap pay - due to be published today - for more consultations, particularly about the powers and independence of remuneration committees.

The new rules, based on the work of the Greenhury Committee on executive pay, are in the form of alterations to the Stock Exchange yellow book, which governs the conduct of listed companies.

One key area of difficulty is the Greenbury committee's proposal that remuneration committees should be composed of independent non-executive directors, with a fer to have seen a greater em-chairman accountable directly phasis nn voluntary codes. to shareholders.

This appears to conflict with the current legal position that all directors are responsible for the running of a company,

with the chairman speaking for the board as a whole.

There are concerns that the new rules will turn the independence of remuneration committees into a legally binding requirement, without ad-dressing the conflict with the more general obligation of all directors to the company. This is one of a number of ar-

eas where companies believe the new rules are likely to be too inflexible. The rules have been drawn up after two months of consultation since a draft of the changes was published on 31

The CBI, which set up the Greenbury Committee in January, is broadly supporting the Stock Exchange's revisions but many of its members would pre-It also emerged that the CBI

is pushing for Budget rethink on tax treatment of share options. guard in the summer when

Kenneth Clarke abolished capital gains tax relief on share op-

The CBI believes he should switch to levying income tax on profits when shares are sold rather than when options are exercised. Without the change there will be a disincentive to managers to hold shares in the companies they work for, be-cause of their liability for tax on the unsold shares immediately

the options are exercised.

Meanwhile, Mr Clarke was threatened with a backbench revolt when parliament reassembles unless he reverses his abolition of the tax rehef. And at a Bow Group meet-

ing in Blackpool, Tory backbencher David Shaw and stock broker John Marshall MP linked with Lord Wulfson, Chairman of Next, and Archie Norman, chief executive of Asda to attack abolition. Mr Norman described the chan-Employers were caught off cellor's decision as "a simple



Archie Normant accused the Chancellor of a 'cock-up' in his decision to abolish tax relief on employee share options

Clarke raises rates question

PAUL WALLACE **Economics Editor**

Kenneth Clarke has discussed the question of a cut in interest rates with Eddie George, for the first time since the minutes of their monthly meetings started being published last year.

In his meeting with the Gov-ernur of the Bank of England on 7 September, the Chancellor said that "although there was no case for an increase in inlerest rates this month, there was also, in his view, no case for reducing them"

Geoffrey Dicks, UK economist at NatWest Markets, suggested that Mr Clarke could be seeking to change the terms of the debate. "It is significant the Chancellar now feels that the question has to be raised."

Mr Clarke said that the oul-There was now 'very strong evidence that growth had slowed to a more sustainable rate". Fur-

higher input prices "had so far been absorbed more than expected, and there was little to suggest that they would not continue to be in the future".

According to the Chancellor, "the main potential cause for concern was the strength of the monetary data, which remained puzzling at a time when activity was more subdued".

The Governor took a more pessimistic line on costs: "Despite much talk of easing cost pressures, there was not much firm evidence of this." The pressures to pass on cost in-creases remained "very strong".

Mr Genrge conceded that economic activity had softened through the summer. However the probability "was that final demand would continue to grow fairly steadily". This would allow the overall rate of growth look for inflation had improved. to pick up after a period in which excess stocks had been worked aff, although the possibility of somewhat weaker growth could not be ruled nut.

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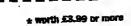
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This could be last chance for Clarke

If new Labour paid homage to the memory of Harold Wilson in Brighton, the Tory party conference in Blackpool is haunted by the political grandmaster's most famous line - a week is a long time in politics. Alan Howarth's defection has shaken the received political wisdom that John Major's gov-ernment can run till spring 1997. With only four by-elec-tions necessary to destroy their outright majority, the Conservatives have now to reckon on a possible election next year.

The upshot is that when Kenneth Clarke addresses the conference today, he will do so in the knowledge that the ground has shifted under his feet since his trip to the International Monetary Fund meetings in Washington. Before Mr Howarth became the new Labour MP for Stratford, the working assumption was that the Chancellor still had two Budgeis 10 go, Now Mr Clarke has to reckon on the possibility that this may be the only shot

The changing odds on the electoral timetable seem certain to reshape the hudgetary arithmetic. Yesterday's green budget" presented by the Institute for Fiscal Studies and Goldman Sachs held out the prospect of a low-key return to tax cuts this November, worth no more than £2-3hn. For the real fireworks, we would have to wait for the 1996 Budget, when according to Andrew Dilnot, director of the IFS, we could see "some really hig tax cuts".

Charitable and broad-minded though Kenneth Clarke may be, he is unlikely to wish to endow Gordon Brown with such a handsome legacy. By highlighting the risk that this may be the Tories' last chance to restore their tax-cutting credentials, Mr Howarth has raised the likelihood that the Government will cut every conceivable corner to deliver the goods on tax cuts this November.

That is the political imperative, hut not for the first time a Chancellor finds himself caught between a rock and a hard place. Two weeks ago, the City balked at a gilts auction for the first time. And yet the Bank of England will have to sell £3hn worth of government debt every month - necessitating an extra auction next February - if it is to meet a borrowing require-ment that has stubbornly refused to fall so far this year.

The "green budget" forecast of £27bn for the current financial year, 1995/6, is a far cry from the £21.5hn predicted by the Treasury last November, hut is itself less than several City forecasts. Whatever the precise outlook for this year, it is hardly the most promising background for a Chancellor to play fast and loose with the public finances. The last thing Kenneth Clarke needs is a crisis in the gilts market accompanied by a stern lec-



ECONOMIC VIEW PAUL WALLACE

ture from Eddie George on the need for an offsetting rise in interest rates to make up for fiscal irresponsibility. The Governor of the Bank of England made such a warning explictly to the Treasury Select Committee over the summer.

One way or another, therefore, the Chancellor has to present a credible forecast for the public sector horrowing requirement next year which shows it continuing to decline. In last year's Budget, the Treasury projected a delicit of £13bn, subsequently raised to £16hn in its economic forecast in June.

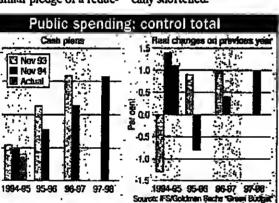
The "green hudget" forecast of a more or less acceptable £17bn depends on achieving a real cut of half a per cent in the "control total" of public expenditure targeted by ministers in the public spending round. By contrast, the Ernst & Young Item Club, which uses the Trea-

Whatever they say, the reality is that spending will rise in real terms next year

sury model, projected earlier this week a PSBR of £25bn even without any tax cuts.

Faced with this prospect, it is no wonder that the mild William Waldegrave has been reincarnated in the unlikely guise of chief axe-swinger in his new joh as Chief Secretary. Spending must fall: that is his hattle-cry; that is the Cabinet's new faith.

Yet the idea that public spending will fall in real terms in an election year seems the beight of implausibility. As the charts below demonstrate, Kenneth Clarke did cut public expenditure in his November 1994 Budget. But the cut was in the planned totals. A similar pledge of a reduc-



tion m planned spending was made in the November 1993 Budget for the financial year that ended this spring. This was supposed to lead to a cut in real terms of just over one per cent in 1994/5. Instead, spending rose by that amount in real terms. Lower than expected inflation meant that the cash amounts available to departments bought more than the

Treasury had planned.
In hrandishing his cuts in lanned expenditure in the last planned expenditure in the last Budget, Mr Clarke in effect pushed the real cut forward to this year. Yet once again, low-er than expected inflation is turning that real cut into a real rise of about half a per cent according to the "green hudget". Even that modest rise has already made for huge unpopularity in key areas of public service - witness the revolt of parents this spring over cuts in

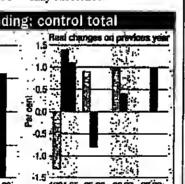
education spending.

The reality is that no matter what Mr Waldegrave and Mr Clarke say, public expenditure will increase in real terms next year. Current plans for key areas like health belong in the fiction rather than non-fiction department of a library. The Government is not, in practice, going to hlow its manifesto pledge with the current projected decline of one and a half per cent.

This would seem to leave the Chancellor with only one way out of his dilemma: to switch taxation. His apparent flirtation with the idea of a windfall utilities tax is suggestive of the po-tential for raiding the corporate sector to finance a hefty cut in personal taxation. Restoring the cut of 2 per cent made in corporation tax in the 1991 Budget would, for example,

eventually yield £2bn a year.

A political Budget this year has always heen seen as a racing certainty. But nothing concentrates the mind like the prospect of execution. The odds on a Budget that moves beav-en and earth to cut income tax without compensating cuts in public spending have drasti-cally shortened.



THE INVESTMENT COLUMN Edited by Magnus Grimond

The future for gilts still looks good

On the face of it, the revelation that the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, and Bank of England Governor Eddie George are in no mood to cut interest rates is bad news for gilts. But few really expected any reduction and on most counts the mediate outlook remains good.

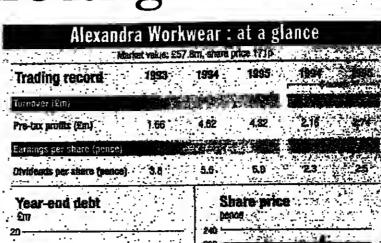
The market for government bonds is more homogeneous than that for equities and marginally less erratic. Its prospects are highly dependent on what the market thinks will happen to inflation and interest rates, although the market also takes account of the relative attractions of UK bonds to UK equities and to US and German bonds.

On inflation, the 1990 commitment to keep a lid on prices has survived devaluation in 1992 and has not been seriously ehallenged since. There is reason to believe that interest rates have reached their peak in the current eco-nomic cycle, while inflation rates could also he close to the top. Yet gilt-edged stocks with 10 years in maturity, currently yielding between 8.25 and 8.5 per cent, are discounting worse to come. The real rate of return of 5 per cent is high and attractive by historic standards.

The state of government finances could cause worries for the market. The public sector borrowing requirement is likely to overshont the target this year by anything between £5bn and £9bn, but the longer-term outlook is better. The Government is likely to finance tax cuts by cutting spending rather than in-creased borrowing. Meanwhile, fears of an incoming Labour government be-having irresponsibly have been quelled by the iron resolve of Tony Blair to win the confidence of financial markets.

Institutional demand for gilts should also hold up. in spite of last month's wohhle, when the auction was undersubscribed for the first time. Share prices could begin to look vulnerable once the current takeover froth subsides, increasing the attractions of bonds. Further underpinning should come from overseas investors. Nikko, the giant Japanese bank, expects Japanese institutions to buy more gilts foilowing further recent relaxation of controls on outward investment.

Together, the evidence suggests that this is no time to reduce gilt holdings.



Workwear firm recovering poise

Alexandra Workwear has been attempting to recover its poise ever since demand for its uniforms and its share price fell off a cliff, forcing a dividend cut in 1992

The atmosphere now is very different from the heady 1980s, hut against the background of a sluggish and highly competitive market, the company has done well to raise profits 27 per cent to £2.74m in the 28 weeks to 12 August. Trading margins improved from 6.8

to 8.2 per cent as Alexandra successfully clawed back the rise in raw material costs that led to disappointing results last year.

Price rises accounted for between 4 and 5 points of the 7 per cent increase in turnover to £35.7m. The rest came

from efforts to upgrade products like provements.

The company says that the increase in raw materials has now levelled off, hut it is not banking on last year's 8 per cent hike being reversed. Meanwhile. the market continues to do it few favours, with little sign that the caution

of buyers is lifting.
Other factors, however, should continue to underpin its recovery this year. For a start, Alexandra is without the start-up costs incurred in 1994 on four new shops. It should also see a reduction in finance charges as gearing, 15 per cent in August, fails close to zero by the year end.

Further out, next month's expected consolidation of four sites on to one at Bristol should eventually produce cost savings of £500,000 a year.

Alexandra has huilt up a commanding 35 per cent of its market on the back

of its quick-response service, saving the customer the need to carry large stocks. But that may not be enough to protect it in another downturn, even if the balance sheet has been restored to bealth. Profits of £5.4m this year would put the shares on a prospective price/camings multiple of 16. High enough.

Pioneer follows the Ashanti trail

Pioneer Goldfields will be following a trail blazed last year by Lonrho's Ashanti when it comes to the stock market next month. Both have Ghana, West Africa, as the focus of their operations. an area to which investors have hitherto had little access.

Like Ashanti, Pioneer will be a substantial group. Depending on the final offer price, expected to be between \$9.50 and \$10.50 a share, it will be capitalised at between \$712m and \$788m. According to yesterday's pathfinder prospectus, that would put a value of between \$77.40 and \$85.60 on each of the group's 9.2m ounces of proven and probable gold reserves. A fifth of the group is being offered for sale by the parent company, Pioneer Group of the US. The notional yield at the offer price is I per cent, with first dealings expected on 8 November.

Pioneer offers a relatively low cost. low risk way into West African gold mining. Cash costs at \$196 an ounce for the six months to June are well below a world average, nearer \$250, and the heap leaching process it employs is rel-atively straightforward compared with Ashanti's deep mined gold. That is illustrated by the latter's recent warning that it would miss its production forecasts this year after disruptions caused by drought and floods.

Production is set to rise from the current 235,000 ounces to 400,000 by 1998, making it one of the top 20 mines in the world. But investors should beware the political risk and, despite the differences, bear in mind the fate of Ashanti, where the share price is right back where it started last year.

Institutions dismiss the restructuring of Australia's biggest retailer as a 'diversion'

Coles plan fails to set investors alight

RUSSELL HOTTEN

Coles Myer, Australia's higgest retailer, has announced a multi-billion dollar restructuring of its entire operations, in one of the largest series of transactions in the country's corporate that Solomon Lew, Coles' biggest shareholder, will relin-

But it failed to satisfy major investors who are pushing for a boardroom shake-up, because the restructuring failed to address shareholders' concerns about conflicts of interest among directors.

The company said the reorganisation could see the creation of several new public

quarter rose to \$12bn from

\$11.7bn in the same 1994 peri-

od. In the first nine months,

\$2.5bn, or \$6.92 a share, in the same 1994 period. Revenue was relatively flat at \$38.1hn, against \$38bn a year ago.

Chrysler, which has heen linked with a possible tie-up with Sweden's Volvo, achieved combined sales in the US and

Canada of 560,000 vehicles in

the quarter, a market share of

13.6 per cent, up 0.1 per cent.
Internationally, Chrysler's retail sales for the third quarter

totalled 40,120 units, up 27 per cent over the 1994 period.

Chrysler sold 21,918 vehicles in

Europe in the third quarter, an

increase of 36 per cent over the same period in 1994.

The automaker approved an

increase in its common stock re-

companies, further asset sales, and share buybacks that might take up to a year to complete. Coles said that its plans would "fundamentally change the face of the Australian retail market". The company added

quish his role as executive chairman and become non-executive chairman. The retailer bas been under pressure from institutional investors to appoint an independent chairman and make board

changes after details of a secret share transaction were revealed

The share transaction, which and create several new public Investments, the State Superwas revealed only after the sacked finance director, Philip Bowman, went public with his concerns, cost Coles A\$18m (£9.3m) and benefited a company associated with Mr Lew. A statement by Coles said

would take some time to be fi-

The restructuring will realise far-reaching benefits for all stakeholders and sharebolders, employees, suppliers and customers," the statement said. The board's preferred structure is to separate the major husinesses within the group

companies, with separate management and independent

Coles said that without crossthat details of the restructuring be able to function independeatly. But large institutional investors were not satisfied with the restructuring and said they would seek replacements for some of Coles current directors. at the annual general meeting on 21 November. The Australia Mutual Provident Society (AMP), Australia's biggest institutional investor, said AMP

intractable problem - how to

improve the corporate image

when no one will take on the

joh. The post of head of me-

annuation Corp and Bankers Trust Australia would seck the

"I don't think it really solves ownership, a common parent or common bolding company, these public companies would anything," said George Bat-sakis, analyst with J.B. Were. He felt that Coles' underlying profits would be the same, irrespective of the new-look structure. Another broker said: "Breaking it up and buybacks are just a diversion."

A retail analyst said that while a proxy battle between the company and major shareholders was still likely, it was too early to say if this would occur at the annual meeting or later.

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Launch costs hurt Chrysler

RUSSELL HOTTEN

Chrysler, America's third largest carmaker, saw thirdquarter profits decline 46 per cent from a year ago as the cost of new launches mounted.

The company, under fire from potential hidder Kirk Kerkorian to improve shareholder value, did not help its case by reporting earnings down from \$651m to \$354m. The profits translated to 91 cents a share, compared with \$1.76 in the third quarter of 1994.

Chrysler said profits were lower mainly due to reduced production of minivans during the changeover to a new model, costs related to the minivan, higher rebates and other huyer incentives, and the deterio-ration of the Mexican economy. Traditionally, third quarters are troughs for America's big three carmakers because of the

cost of model changeovers, va-cation-slowed production and slower summer sales. Chrysler's profits grew from

the second quarter to the third, and July-September was the third-best third quarter in company history. Robert Eaton, the chairman, said. "Customer response to our new minivans has been outstanding, and we expect to be near full minivan production capacity by the end of the fourth quarter." Chrysler's revenue for the

purchase programme during the quarter, from \$1bn to \$2bn to be completed by the end of 1996. It said that through the first nine months it repurchased 17.4 million shares of its common stock at a cost of \$782m.

The US's higgest carmaker, General Motors, reports profits on Tuesday, when it is also expected to show a year-on-year fall. Along with Ford, the grant three's combined third quarter profits are likely to total about profits are likely to total about 1.2hn, down from about \$2.3hn a year ago.

2.74m (2.18m) 5.3p (4.3p) 250 (230) A F Bolgts & Co (I) 10.5m (9.03m) 0.56m (0.50m) 1.53p (1.26p) 23.7m (21.2m) 1.77m (1.38m) 5.4p (4.2p) 0.57m (0.07m) 0.42m (-0.03m) 1.62p (-0.18p) #1 (rd)

Simon Pincombe CITY DIARY SBC's style disarms the critics

From the September issue of Euromoney comes the announcement of the presti-Chrysler profits have fallen to \$1.08bn, or \$2.82 a share, from \$2.5bn, or \$6.92 a share, in the gious Deals of the Year awards. And the winner is ..

The judges have been lavish in their praise for the Swiss hank. "No single over the-counter option has shaken the City of London so greatly, interpreted its rules with such abandon, or trouhled so many lawyers as the cost-saving derivative used by Trafalgar House in its abortive attempt to take over Northern Electric

You will recall that the "contracts for differences" gave Trafalgar options over the shares in seven regional electricity companies, including 3.35 million shares in the target company, before the bid was announced. When the options were eventually closed out Trafalgar had . earned £6m towards its costs.

The judges were particularly impressed by the way SBC handled the ensuing outrage over the ethics of the deal, noting that the most vociferous critic was SG Warburg, which was immediatekly gobbled up by the Swiss bank.

Alas, Sir Patrick Sergeant and his crew no longer throw the best party in town. This week's International Monetary Fund jamboree in Washington has been deprived of Euromoney's legendary receptions, no doubt thanks to last week's profits warning from the publisher. Instead there were just two low-key funchtime receptions

"They have not registered on the landscape," remarked an observer. "Champagne and peanuts, "agreed a

Cedric Brown's now-infa-

mous defence of his 75 per cent pay rise last year has saddled British Gas with an

dia relations remains vacant with the salary on offer rising



The arrival of Rupert Pennant-Rea (above) at Roddy Dewe's bouse of gloss was nuly matter of time. The shadowy spin doctor and the disgraced former Deputy Governor of the Bank of England go back a long way. Their respective families were even aquainted in their native Zimbabwe.

But the two became firm friends when Mr Pennant-Rea was editor of The Economist, lunching together regularly.

They are both obsessed by national debt," explains one insider. As a non-executive director of Dewe Rogerson, Mr Pennant-Rea is certain to get considerably more than £5,000 paid to other non-executives for the four meetings a year. "He will be developing husiness on the capital markets," said Mr Dewe. "There is a hell of a lot more to be done in marketing debt." Rivals were less charitable. "Bonking was never an obstacle to becoming a successful PR man," said one.

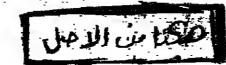
price rises and service cuts, Mr Brown's 1've-earned-itso-l'll-keep-it approach went straight into the PR training manual as an example of

how it should not be done. Yesterday a senior public relations figure confided that he had turned down £100,000 to do the joh. Not so long ago the head hunters were trawling the market with less than £50,000.

Once asked to say something amusing at a dinner party, Noel Coward replied: "Australia". However, this is not a joke that will go down well at Lloyds Bank on the return to this country of Geraldine Davies, Having built a powerful role for herself as one of the bank's corporate mouthpieces, Ms Davies chose to go on holiday Down Under just before the big one broke. Colleagues are

The Fengshui Network which promotes the under-standing of the Chinese prae-tice of placing of objects in a building to create the best harmony- is flying over Bill Spears, the West's leading authority, to lecture British

architects on how it is done. The Network insists that Mr Spears will be required listening, claiming that both Richard Branson and Sir Richard Greenbury are already disciples. Mr Branson took spiritual advice before launching Virgin's Hong Kong route. Sir Richard has apparently been convinced that the impressive performance of the Marks & Spencer Hong Kong store is all down to fengshni.



DATA BANK

market report/shares

FT-SE 100 3474.3+14.2 FT-SE 250 3919.8+16.6 FT-SE 350 1737.3 +7.2 SEAQ VOLUME 791.2m shares. 31,198 bargains Gilts Index 92.63 : -0.15 SHARE SPOTLIGHT

Prices forge ahead as takeover action intensifies

Normal service was resumed on dealing screens across the City yesterday thanks to the strong overnight rally on Wall Street, and yet more hectic action on the takeover front. The market's nervous system, however, has yet to recover from the previous session's dash for the lifeboats by market makers, and dealers are preying that today's inflation figures for September will con-

tain nothing but good news.
Events on Wall Street, though, are largely determining the direction of share prices in London, and there are fears that a poor third quarter company reporting season in America could send the FT-SE 100 index

heading south for the winter. Market-makers took stock of Wall Street's overnight performance, which saw the Dow Jones finish just five points adrift at the end of a day when prices were falling so fast at one time that limits on program trad-

London prices opened slightly softer yesterday, and then forged ahead as investors digested the latest raft of takeer news involving Lloyds Bank for TSB, North West for Norweb, UUNET Technologies of the US for Unipalm, and Fisons throwing the towel in its fight against Rhone Poulenc. The FT-SE 100 index closed

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14.2 points higher at 3,474.3, having been up at 3,408.9 just before Wall Street opened. The strong tone was evident right through the market, and the FT-SE 250 gained 16.6 to 3,919.8. Volume trading was reasonably good with almost 800 million shares changing bands in more shares changing bands in more than 31,000 deals.

The appetite for more bids among dealers is insatiable, and the rumour mill about where the action will be is in overdrive. There is hardly a share sector which does not come with several strands of



MARKET REPORT JOHN SHEPHERD

Gartmore, the fund management group, is the hot favourite soon to be taken under the wings of an adoptive parent from either Germany, the Netherlands or the UK.

Shares climbed 10p to 276p with dealers convinced that the 75 per cent stake owned by Banque Indosuez will be sold for upwards of £400m before the month is out to either NatWest Bank, up 10.5p to 612p, Dresdner Bank or ABN Amro, the Dutch owner of the Hoare Govett firm of stock-

NatWest's advisers are understood to be burning copious amounts of midnight oil to thrash out a deal, which analysts believe will be a boon for the company and help it com-

Barclays, 2p firmer at 727p. Bank shares, which ran up sharply on Monday on the original announcement of the merger between Lloyds and TSB were subjected to some profit-taking. Standard Char-tered gave up 5p to 481p, and Royal Bank of Scotland lost

pete more effectively against

The terms of Lloyds deal were well received amid heavy trading. Almost 18 million shares were traded in Lloyds, which climbed 49p to 769p, and more than 26 million were dealt in TSB, up 19p to 369p. Volume trading in Norweb,

going through the books as North West Water, down 22p to 573p, raided the market for stock after increasing its take-

North West's raid was very successful. Investors said yes faster than bank managers at the TSB, and North West picked up 25 per cent of Nor-web's shares. The company is set to be back in the market this morning in an attempt to take

its stake to 29.9 per cent.
Norweb is now recommending the offer, and dealers believe the higher offer will prove too much for the pockets of Texas Energy Partners. The consensus of opinion, however, is that the Americans will continue to strive to own a regional electricity company and London Electricity, which shot up 35p to 898p, is the favourite target. East Mid-lands, another of the Recs yet

up 61p to £11.47, was also high to attract a bid, closed 16p betwith more than 35.57 million ter at 877p.

Rumours about GEC, off a penny to 328.5p, bidding for a Rec resurfaced with Yorkshire Electricity, up 16p to 894p, the favourite target.

The market is also waiting for bid action to break out among water utilities, particu-larly a move soon by Lyonnais des Eaux of France for Northumbrian Water. 5p firmer at 990p.
Unipalm, the centre of a re-

cent storm of anger when it announced that takeover terms would be considerably less than the prevailing 600p market price, added 4p to 414p on an all-share, £97m recom-mended offer by UUNET.

Shares in BAT Industries were again in demand. More than 11.5 million were traded and the price advanced 11p to 544p on talk of a break-up bid. Pearson, also seen as a bid can-

Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is last year's divid

THE INDEPENDENT INDEX

MARKET LEADERS: TOP 20 VOLUMES

35,000 NFC 36,000 BAT inds. 20,000 Votature 17,000 Seam

FT-SE 100 INDEX HOUR BY HOUR

by 20 per cent, as a percentage of the share price. The price/carnings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's carnings per share, excluding exceptional items.

The index allows you to access real-time share prices by phone from Scaq, Simply dial 0891 123 335, followed by the 4-digit code printed next to each share. To access the latest financial reports dial 6891 1233 followed by one of the two-digit codes below.

FT-SE 100 - Real-time 00 Sterling Rates 04 Privatisation Issues 36 UK Stock Market Report 01 Bullion Report 05 Water Shares 39 UK Company News 02 Wall St Report 20 Electricity Shares 40 Poreign Exchange 03 Tokyo Market 21 High Street Ranks 41

Anyone with a tone-dial telephone can use this service. For a detailed description of The Independent Index, including its portfolio facility, phone 0891 123 333. For assistance, call our helpline 071 873 4375 (9.30am - 5.30pm). Calls coat 39p per minute (cheap rate), and 49p at all other times. Call charges include VAT

Shares in Scholl, the healthcare products group under siege from rebel shareholders led by Julian Tregar, hardened a permy to 230p after announcing approaches had been received from several interested parties. Talks are at

TAKING STOCK

an early stage, and the company stressed that there was no certainty of a bid being made. One of the approaches is from a private French pharmaceuti-

Finding a vacant room at top London hotels is proving difficult these days, but finding buyers for hotels is proving to be easier. Following the sale of the Ritz to the Barclay trains it now transmire that twins, it now transpires that someone wants to check into the smaller and less glam-orous Park Lane Hotel. The shares, one of the first draft on the new Ofex market, are trading at around £7, implying

a value for the hotel of £30m.

6,400 6,400 6,100

14.00 3472.0 up 11.9

16.00 3474.3 up 14,2

ing had to be put into effect. takeover speculation attached.

it pays dividends FOOD MANUFACTURERS

Banking at First Direct makes sound economic sense:

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S CIVICE AND STATE OF THE STATE Personal 24 hr telephone banking Whe reserve the right to discribe to open an account for you. First Direct is a division of Michael Benk plc. Free benking meens no charges for writing cheques, standing orders, direct disbits, cash machine withdrawals, Switch paymants or monthly statements, even 8 your account is overtrawn. Singulature must be agad of 8 or over. Selecte agreeding to land your broney we set want to make sure that you can afford the repayments. Phone for written denate.

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Elite division eludes Lammtarra

Lammtarra's retirement on Tuesday came with the assertion that he had nothing more to prove. For some, though, nothing could be further from the truth.

With the chestnut's stirring deeds—
a Derby, King George and Arc—still
fresh in the mind, there are some who insist he has by no means earned a place in the pantheon.

Peter Savill, Celtic Swing's owner has even used the dirty word of work-manlike to describe the colt, and suggested he should be returned to the track next season to further prove his mettle. In addition, the respected handicappers at Timeform believe Lammtarra can be elevated to the most exalted company only by an outstanding performance from a horse be has beaten. They have positioned him on a relatively plebian mark of 134 in

"The final rating depends on how the placed horses in the Arc get on," Chris Williams, Timeform's senior Flat handicapper, said yesterday. "If Freedom Cry [the Arc runner up] wins the Breeders' Cup Turf then we can look at Lammarra in a better light. But Lammtarra cannot compare with But Lammtarra cannot compare with some of the great champions of old. If they did it in different eras," he said. we call him great, then we have to men-

NEWMARKET

22.

Richard Edmondson finds that the horse who battled to success faces a fight for recognition

tion Freedom Cry and Pentire [the King George second] in the same breath." tacular horses like Sea Bird and Ribot and unfortunately he is not going to Lammtarra is also expected to be classified as just an ordinary Arc winner in the official International Classifications and is likely to be placed behind Bahri, Pennekamp and Celtic Swing.

TIMEFORM'S ALL-TIME TOP-RATED 145 Sea Bird II, 144 Brigadier Gerard, Tudor Minstrel, 142 Ribot, Abernant, 141.
Mill Reef, 140 Dancing Brave, Shergar,
Vaguely Noble, 139 Generous, Pappa
Fourway, Reference Point, 138 Alleged, Alycidon, Edbury, Nijinsky

Ian Balding, the trainer of Mill Reef, the only other horse to have completed the big treble, also believes his colt proved more in terms of longevity and versatility. Geoff Lewis, Mill Reef's

and unfortunately he is not going to be remembered as good as them. That's rather sad, seeing what he has Here lies the crux. Lammtarra's ca-

pacity to succeed while expending the east possible energy will be held to his detriment by many and he will struggle to be remembered as an impressive figure. All the horses that glue themselves to the public consciousness have had flamboyance about them: Ni-jinksy for his instant acceleration, Shergar for his wide-margin victory in the Derby (though he arguably owes his celebrity more to a sorry demise) and, in another code, Desert Orchid, whose colouring and extravagant fenc-ing masked the fact he was someway behind his predecessors in National

Hunt's top branches. This, however, does not wash with those who developed Lammarra, nor does the suggestion that he harboured a mental problem which hastened his retirement. The Godolphin team, under whose aegis the colt ran, even tried

press release on Tuesday. Others have an explanation for the colt's apparent recalcitrance at home and on the racecourse. "He would just stand there at the beginning of a piece of work and you would have to lead him in, but I would call that a characteristic more than a sign of temperament," Ed Dunlop, former assistant to Lammtarra's original trainer, Alex Scott, said yesterday. "He was certainly a very kind horse and you could get in his box and be would be no bother."

Walter Swinburn, who rode Lamm-tarra in the Derby, also defended the horse's attitude and ability. "The way he behaved was just him," he said yes-terday. "Good horses do it in differ-ent ways, but there seems to be this fixation with horses who have an immediate turn of foot, like Sir Ivor and Nijinsky. There are other ways of do-ing it like Reference Point and this horse, and everyone seems to forget that Shergar was basically a galloper

who ran them into the ground. Lammtarra was ill and then he had interrupted preparations before the Derby and the King George, so the only time he had a really clear run in was before the Arc. It takes some horse "People seem to remember the spec- to retract any mention of the word tem- to do that and, whatever others say, the like him for a few years."



Lammtarra: departing in a wink

boys in the weighing room know he is something special. They call him a freak. You can't knock the borse and I promise you we won't see another one

Lake has Champion ban for Dettori

decisions yesterday in giving

Lanfranco Dettori the longest

ban of his career and in issuing

the first suspension to a jockey

for failing a drugs test. Dettori

will be an onlooker for 10 days,

and will be deprived of riding

on Stakes, while the apprentice jockey Sean McCarthy will not

be able to add to his five-win ca-

Dettori, who was represent ed by John Gosden's wife, the

barrister Rachel Hood, was

ago, his third offence of the sea-

son. Unless he lodges an appeal

reer total for two months.

Tamure in Saturday's Champi

The Jockey Club's Disciplinary his chances of riding at the Committee made two historic Breeders' Cup.

Breeders' Cup.
His ban, which begins on
Saturday, also rules him out of the Racing Post Trophy on 21 October, but he is free to partner Presenting in the Rothmans International at Toronto

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Danjing (Newmarket 2.35) **NB: Orinoco River** (Newmarket 4.50)

on Sunday because there is no deemed guilty of irresponsible Flat racing in Britain, riding at Pontefract nine days Gosden, resigned to Gosden, resigned to losing Dettori, said: "I'm sure Michael Kinane will ride Tamure. The

horse is in great form but I wouldn't want the ground to dry up too much. He breezed this

McCarthy, aged 22 and based in Lambourn with the trainer Kevin McAuliffe, tested positive for cannabis and amphetamines. After the inquiry be said: "I accept that banned substances were found in my sample, however I have never knowingly taken amphetamines and cannot explain how I test-

ed positive for them. "I am determined that the offence will not be repeated. I am equally determined to pursue my career in racing and will work even barder than before to ensure I succeed. I would like to thank my boss, Kevin McAuliffe, for his support during a difficult and stressful time."

His solicitor, Andrew Chalk, said: "Sean realises he has been foolish and is determined that he

REDCAR

1.45 Nikita's Star 2.20 Trazi 2.55 Empty Quarter

3.55 STAR AND GARTER (nap) 5.00 Sue's Return

3.25 Sovereign's Crown GOING: Firm (Good to Firm in pinces). DRAW ADVANTAGE: High from 5f to 1 m. STALLS: Straight course — centre; remainder — inside.

Ligh-hand, tight course, with a one mile straigh.

E Course to off A 1085, Station (Luthington - Salthurn line) 330byd, ADMISSION: Club S12; Grandstand £7 (OAPs \$3.50); Course \$2.50 (OAPs \$1.25). CAR FARE: Fire.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: Mrs M Revoley — 54 winners from 361 runners gives a success ratio of 14.3% and a loss to a 51 keel stake of 513.16; M H Besterby — 20 winners, 200 runners, 9.78%, _524.71; J Berry — 18 winners, 162 runners, 11.1%, _535.7%; § 18 Presectt — 16 winners, 22.2 runners, 3.7%; § 18 Presect — 16 winners, 22.2 runners, 3.7%; § 18.7%; § Duffield — 20 winners, 113 rides, 17.7%, _57.30; Paul Eddery — 18 winners, 41 rides, _54.2%; § Duffield — 20 winners, 113 rides, 17.7%, _57.30; Paul Eddery — 18 winners, 41 rides, _54.2%; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.4%, _54.40; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.4%, _54.40; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.4%, _54.40; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26, _54.40; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; § 18.28.65; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 140 rides, 16.26; Deam McKesowa — 17 winners, 14

The (95m) was often some ero more of my second many commended Despit
1.45 CUB HUNTERS RATING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS E) £4,400 added 270 1m Penalty Value £3,235
1 405 GAZUNY BLADE (13) (T Blade) A Janes 8 0
2 52006 LABRED (USA) (20) (Hamdan Al Maldoum) W R Hem 9 D
3 036 NEEDLE RNOT (96) ON Y L Recent) M Johnston 9 D
4 04050 NBQDRS SDR (27) ONINZ's Partners) O Muray Smith 90
6 0400 PERKERUZ (18) (1 A Scothern) E Weymes 9 D
9 44265 QUALITY (15) & S Yong W O'Gorman 9 D
7 DO4 RECALL TO MIND (49) (Mrs Mayone Graham) M H Easterby 9 D
8 45045 TAPPITIME (USA) (12) (Kennet Valley Thoroughbrads) P Colo 9 0
8 54063 WELCOME ROYALE (12) Dates G.A.E. Smath) M. Tomphates 9.D
10 D4003 WIRE ACT (USA) [12] (Ladyswood Racing Club) M Meade 9 D
11 003 ECSTATIC MADAM (16) (Except P Winfeld) 8 Hills 89
12 03550 LA FWDANGO (17) (Sherif Racing) M W Easterby 8 9 L Chargook 12
- 12 decimed -
DETINES 0.2 Contain Marines 5.1 I should 11.2 Marrie Mart 6.1 Technique 7.1 Country 9.1

Welcome Royale, 9-1 Recell To Mind, 1D Galvey Blade, 12 Middle's Stor, 14 Wire Act, 18 others 1994: First Bite 2 8 0 W Ryen 11-2 (J Dunlop) 8 pm

3.25 REDCAR TWO-YEAR-OLD TROPHY (CLASS B) C4: __ L Dettod 15 11 3104 WHAT FUN (5) (Nondes Racing) R Harmon 8 7 12 12 BABSY BABE (27) (G) (His Carol Brown) J Quain 8 5 13 212336 ATRAF (26) (Hambon A) Maldoumi J Morley 8 4 14 132131 DANNESTON (BAS) (50) (C) (Lucano Gauco) M Set 8 4 15 2130 FUNGS NORTH (47) (D) (D) Gym Moredin) Max M Roseley 8 4 16 345002 TEERHEA (LT) (May Neys Dutled) B R Milman 8 4 17 11 ANTHELIA (26) (D) (Mis Clautie Libe) G Wrogg 8 2 18 11 ELE RRS (89) (M A Jones) M Jones 9 (B North S 2 1 19 212 PRANCING (28) (BF) (Diseably Park Studi O Lode; 8 2 20 43460 GALAPINO (31) (The Departing Company Landed) C Britain 8 1 21 1135 BAIZE (85) (Lody Rotes chigh R Johnson Houghon 7 13 22 3414 BEWITCHING (BS) (JRS) (JRS R HE 21

the one they have to best. MELDORF's just about the least exposed runner in the field, the hacked up at Newstaste on his only start and the fact that Mack Khone comes over for the ride cannot be ignored. Maid For The Nills, who is in the same ownership, looks to have been prepared especially for this and she is preferred to the other David Loder nurner, Phatelaigs, who will be pushed to turn round Yarmouth form with Geoff Wagg's improving Archella. Blue this condortably beat Needham Star's only subsequent tun, in a Group One race in Ireland, suggests she's improved in the meantaine. Severelga's Crown should be thereabouts after his decisive Newbury win and subsequent that to highly-rated Even Too his a total start and a Newsmother. Sealestings MELDORE

Top in a Listed race at Newmorket. Selection: MELDORF.	
3.55 EBF MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (CLASS D) £5,500 C4	
1 ANDAMER (Harretan & Makegumi J Greaten S 11 R FE	4
2 5 CLASSIC AFFAIR (USA) (14) (Classic Biodostock Pic) 5 Williams B 11	
3 50 DELLA CASA (19) (Sultan Al Nabeerl J Duniop 8 11	M I
4 DOMEUSKY (Charles Castle) F O'Mahony 8 11 A College	an i
5 D FAIRWINGS (12) (L C and A E Sessionth) Mrs 1 karnsten 6 11 KFallon	10
6 D FLIBHTY (23) Book Hartingtoni L Cuman S 11	od 7
7 40 GREEN CHARITER (23) (BF) (Educatio Himoresi) H Ceci 8 11	en S
8 JAMERAT JURGARRAH (Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktuum) E Duniop 8 11 Al J Kinam	. 11
9 D IGNOS BLUE (91) (Michael V Bebot J Bestiel 8 11	112
10 00 SHADY SEEL (19) (John Load) 8 HHs 8 11 J Ween	
11 336 STAR AND GARTER (Z2) (Dios of the late Sr Ptilip Opportentier) G Wast S 1; M H	E 2
11 5 STRATEGIC PLOY (15) (Ms.H M Carri Ms. J Ransden 8 11	4
BETTING: 3-1 Avenuels, 4-1 Star And Garter, 5-1 Green Charter, 6-1 Shady Girl, 8-1 Januari	
makeh, 10-1 Fakywings, 12-1 Clossic Affair, Stratugic Flore 14-1 others	_
1984: no corresponding race	

ctably from what proved a poor draw in Opean Grove First time Out, SIMADY GRIL, ran respectably from which proved a poor draw in Opean Grove' race at Northightam, and she is back in an ordinary-looking maden after taking her chance in the Blue Seol Stakes at Ascot. Star And Garber was body drown at Northigham los time, in the race won by Thracian, but the was first home on the stands' side and bea Green Charter (timounte) and Flightly he was first home on the stands' side and bea a number of good winners. Star And Garter should be therabous, but Phythy will im prove for the run and Frankie Detion takes over this time. Selection: SHADY GRIL.

• • •		
4	.25	LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,400 added 1m 51 135yds Penalty Value £3,940
1	00-2053	MATRIMOROS (16) (Mano Lankanchi) / Dunlop 3 9 10
5	005541	PRETORIA DANCER (5) (C) (Sholkh Ahmed Al Moldoum) / Gosdon 3 9 10 (Ser)
•	0000-1	Treatment previous (a) (a) (prepara Arrings of magazina) design 3 3 to 1350
3	0550	REAGANESQUE (USA) (23) Malkoum Al Maktoum) E Dunkop 3 9 3
ĭ	021120	SREEN LAND (DEL) (30) Mrs V Visini 5 Williams 3 9 2
2	UZITIOU	STATES DATE (SEC) INC. A AND A SANCTURE
5	423436	PEPTIST (428) (The Germin Partnership 2) M Hammond 4 8 11 J Carroll 10
Ġ	0-65	ALIOU (17) (Tim Corby) M Ryen 3 7 12
7	152430	LINDISPARME LADY (50) (C) (Non Matthews Racing) Mrs M Reveloy 3 7 9 L Chemock 6
Ř	012550	PHILLIEST (26) (C O Sarber-Lorrand W Elsey 3 7 8
9	0.00523	MARONETTA (16) (Mrs. 5 M Martin) M Ryan 3 7 7
10	040606	ISLAND CASCADE (20) (Don Ernos Inosa) Don Ernos Inosa 3 7 Tanana. (Gen Tireles 4
ũ	45.430G	MESTERN LONG THE DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY O
	43420	WESTERN HORIZON (USA) (IA) (Nyck Hall Stud) C Britton 3 7 7
12		LIGHTNENG QUEST (96) (J.H. Pickard)] Warnerght = 1 1
13	301200	LIAB (CAN) (26) (Mrs Lynn Paries) J Paries 5 7 7
		= 13 decimed =
		- an application -

	1994: First Bid 7 9 9 A Cultiane 4-1 (R Whitaker) 14 ran
	5.00 EGTON CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £8,000 added 3YO 71 Penalty Value £5,863
	1 0-3021D MOON KING (19) (0) (Monamed Suhai) R Hannan 93
ł	D. Control of the Principal May be a fundamental beautiful and a management and against the same

-3 declared -BETTING: 4-7 Epaglis, 13-8 Moon King, 14-1 See's Return 1994: Maday 3 8 9 8 Doyle 5-1 (C Britain) 7 ran

THE INDEPENDEN **Horse Racing** Results.

0839 - 111 171

Commentary

Sauran Broadymean Fichpline 871 465 5961 Calle chappel & 39p per sale thesp case.

RACELINE N'MARKET 101 201 301 REDCAR 102 202 307 TAUNTON 103 203 303 THURLES | 120 | 220 | 320 Colle charged at 1997 run charge was 1997 run at 45 after times, Into 15 Mart Jame, Londo 151 SER

HYPERION'S 2.35: The three to consider are Son Of Sharp Shot, who has been Of Sharp shot, who has occur dropped 2th for disappointing on unsuitably soft ground at Ascot, the progressive Seckar Vale, and DAN-JING, who won a claimer over this track and trip in great style last time. 3.10 LUNAR MIST ran on so 3.25: Any draw advantage is hard strongly over five forlongs here last to pin down here, most of the retime that she should cope with this extra furlong and a 7lb weight rise. been run on soft going. Caymar Kai's stable has been going through a lean spell yet this colt has the best

3.40: EMPEROR JONES reopposes Haravir on favourable terms gust, when the selection did not enjoy a clear run. 4.15; REVERAND THICKNESS

NEWMARKET

STALLS: 1.36 — for side: 3.40 — Rapada side; remanuser — caract.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: NonBight-kand course with 1 m2f straight.

Course is SW of town on A 1304. Bus link from Cambridge and Newmarks; railway stones (served by London, Liverpool Street). ADMISSION: Club \$14 (18 to 25-year-olds \$58); Grundstand & Paddock \$9 (18 to 25-year-olds \$58); Grundstand & Paddock \$9 (18 to 25-year-olds \$58); Grundstand & Paddock \$9 (18 to 25-year-olds \$58); Silver Ring \$53. CAR PARK: Mo

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: H Gecii — 57 winners from 297 runners gives a success rule of 19.7% and a loss to a \$1 kvcl stake of \$66.42; \$ Gooden — 57 winners, 16.7%, -\$45.60; R Harmon — 53 winners, 571 runners, 8.37%, -\$228.25; L Cumani — 43 winners, 504 runners, 14.1%, -\$93.54.

**LEADING JOCKET'S: Par Rédery — 106 winners, 530 rides, 20%, -\$66.73; L Dettori — 80 winners, 566 rides, 14.1%, -\$135.11; W R Swindsura — 64 winners, 400 rides, 13.6%, +\$10.26; W Carson — 63 winners, 526 rides, 12%, -\$87.23.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lythous (visored) (2.00); Edisayana (2.35); Astral Works (4.15).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE BUINNESS: Friecess Famogody (2.00) & Standowa (3.10) have been sent 213 miles by 1 Berry from Cockecham, Lancs; Glincher Chab (3.10) sent 200 miles by M Johnston from Middleham, N Vortes, No More Beaste (2.00) & Audalyses (4.15) sent 100 miles by Miss if N M Reveley from Lingdale, Clevekind; Flowing Occasa (4.16) sent 122 miles by Miss if Kelleway from Whitecombe, Dorset.

1.30 NGK SPARK PLUGS CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS B) £13,000 added 1m 2f Penalty Value £8,767

2.13,000 added 1.m 2f Penalty Value 28,767

12143 BURDO (19) (CD) (Handan Al Mattaum) D Mortey 5 9 12

0.21025 CADEAUX TRUST (19) (C) Microsom Al Mattaum) E Ductop 8 9 1 ... W R Sei

0.34422 BAL MARBOUR (34) (C) (K Abdullah H Coci A 9 0 ... Pat 1

412200 AMRAIA AREE (22) (C) (K Messa) 8 Handur 3 9 0 ... K R

412200 AMRAIA AREE (23) (C) (Messa) 8 Handur 3 8 12 ... W V

1.30221 OUT ON A PROMISE (36) (D) (Mes H H Morred G Wang 3 8 12 ... W V

1.36 FINAL APPEARANCE (23) (R E Sungier) Penalter 19 and 3 8 10 ... R Coc

440202 HHT OLD PELING (23) (Ebb Liseman R Harron 3 8 8 ... R Coc

2.14664 PROMY (12) (D) (Sr Devis Who) | Fenaltere 3 8 5 ... D Ha

-9 declared -BETTING: 7-4 has Harboux, 4-1 Burnel, 9-2 Out On A Promise, 6-1 Corteaux Tryot, 10-1 Pinory, Warn

2.00 BUCKENHAM SELLING STAKES (CLASS E) £10,000 added 270 7f Penalty Value £7,815

lag Order, 16-1 Amrak Ajonis, Final Appearance, That Old Feelin 1994: Garden Ol Hoaven 5 8 3 M Roberts 13-2 (C Britism) 7 ran

Cambridgeshire last time. REDCAR 2.55; EMPTY QUARTER seeks a hat-trick but is burdened with a 61b penalty for beating three rivals here nine days ago, That small field contained more quality than today's mainly out-of-form opposition.

2.00 Lydhurst

3.10 Lunar Mist

GOING: Good to Firm STALLS: 2.36 - for st

2.35 Danjing

has run well here before and was

form credentials. Authoria is an un-beaten, improving filly and her yard has a good record in this kind of event. Both receive weight from SOVEREIGN'S CROWN, yet the way this colt stretched clear of a big field at Newbury a month ago means he is the right type for this.

3.55; Awaamir and Jamrat Jumairah look dangerous newcomers, but the experience of STAR AND GARTER could prove decisive. This filly was sixth of 23 runners at Not-tingham last month but was certainly not disgraced as she was markedly disadvantaged by the draw.

3.40 Emperor Jones (nb) 4.15 Reverand Thickness

4.50 Silver Dome

slick look

A quick replacement for Lammtarra as a prospective Breeders' Cup winner for Britain emerged yesterday when Lake Coniston suggested that he was over the problems which caused him to run so poorly in the Haydock Park Sprint Cup last month, writes Richard Edmondson.

The fonr-year-old worked impressively around the replica Belmont Park bend that Geoff Lewis had constructed at his Epsom yard, "It was quite greasey on top so I was a little anxious when he worked up to full speed," the trainer said. But he came round there as well as paint and whatever beats him in the Breeders' Cup Sprint will have to be a bloody good horse,"

within 48 hours, his place on the Gosden-trained Tamure will go to Michael Kinane. An unsuccessful appeal would threaten 2.35 GREENE KING RATED HANDICAP (CLASS B) £13,000 added Im 4f Penelty Value £8,511 112.40 Stor OF SHAPE SHOT (12) (D) (Windfauer Holling) J Dunlop 5 9 7 Pat Eddery 2 240-152 EDGNISAM (42) (D) (Sheith Ease Bri Maderal) R Mehrat 5 8 2 R Cochasea 2 002010 GROE FROM (42) (D) (Sheith Ease Bri Maderal) R Mehrat 5 8 1 W R Seinborn 30 002010 GROE FROM (63) (D) (C Mehrat 6 6 1 W R Seinborn 30 001015 ACTING BRANE (100) (CD) (C Mehrat 6 1 W R Seinborn 30 001015 ACTING BRANE (100) (CD) (C Mehrat 6 1 W R Seinborn 30 001010 NAGED WILLOM (12) (D) Note Weltone Patriasting M Februaria Coding 3 8 J Baild 9 0-40014 WHITECHAPE (854) (13) (D) (The Queen Card Hollington 7 8 9 D D Markson 1 13:04 DARMANN (22) (D) (P D Sand Las) Hense 3 8 9 S D Note 1 Note

,			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	3	.10	SPORTING LIFE NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS £10,000 added 270 6f Penalty Value £8,15	C4
	1			
	2	126210	WHITE ENIR (20) (BF) (Nigel Stafford) 8 Mechan 8 5	WR Swipburn 18
	3	3521	REPRESENTE (AUS) (12) IR E Santster) P Chappie-Hyarn 9 5	
	4	001320	CLINCHER CLUB (20) (Bran Yeardey Commental Ltd) M Johnston 9 0	W Woods 12
	5	023004	ECTRA HOUR (17) Machael Payton) W May 8 13	K Dayley 7
	8	1103	LITTLE HOGENS (LA) (D) (LI E HER) C Dayer 8 13	Martin Duyer (7) 1
	7	5430	SECRET PLEASURE (15) Bats S H Spencer-Phillips R Harmon 8 12	Pat Edday 15
	8	104111	LINNAR MEST (14) (C) (D) (Ladvanced Record Club) M Meade 8 11	
	9	55103	STOP PLUT (84) (BF) (Mark Tomokins Record M Tomokins 8 10	R Cochrago 14
	10	201	SWEET NATURE (12) (D) Oaks Doris N Allen) W Janes 8 8	W Carson 2
	11	320146	STANDOWN &S Mrs Ches Deutern) J Berry 8 5	P Femory (5) 12
	11	135433	DEERLY CLOS (C) (Mrs Chev) Holden D Mores 82	Pout Eddery 17
	13	224162	WEEDMAN'S WEIGH (LO) (Ed Westman Ltd) R Hollinghead 8 1	
•	14	0425	ASKENIE FOR KENES CLA MAS GR Smith 5 Dow 7 13	
	15	02832	AGAIN TOGETHER (22) (C.) Pennski N Calastran 7 13	G Bardwell 6
	10	220416	WHERE'S MARBARET (14) (D) (GHP Printed) Gless 7 13	N Adaps 16
	17	412466	LADY CAROLINE LANE (19) OV H Porsonby) M Channon 7 12	F Norton 11
	18	1.40GDD	FORESIAN (24) (C) (Times of Wigon) W D'Gorman 7 7	N Baird (5) 9
	_		- 16 dectured -	
			A. T. T. V. Landon and the Common Per Ch.	

— 16 dectared —

Minimum weight: 7st 7b. True handkap weight: Forenen 7st 5b,
BETTRIB: 13-2 Later Miet, 7-1 Repathete, 6-1 Sanet Nature, 30-1 Prime Velta, Secret Pien.
Westman's Weight, 12-1 Checker Clab, 34-1 Again Toguline, Little Nogigna, Stop Play, Where's
giret, 18-1 Others
1984: Warden 2 7 7 L Checker 12-1 Nature G Mathematical Company of the Company of the

Westman's West, 12-1 Clasenter Case, 14-1. Again together, 16-1 others
1594: Worders 2 7 7 L Chemock 12-1 place of Release) 21 are
FORM GUIDE

The draw adventage is confusing with the stalls placed in the centre. STANDOWN, in stall
13, is just the type to pick up on the nee to the line. Competent 5th claimer Paul Fessery
rates off 5th and Standown rolend up the hist at Sandown to best Centration three outlings.

By the besides standown bearing to suit today, unlike in Lumar Med's nursery here (5th next
time, and his tetest showing behind Deathing Blue at York was a decent run considering his
old draw. Lumar Mast has winning form at this distance (beat U-No-Harry at Haydock) but
Standown meets her 9th better for the five-length beating. Almost a year agb to the day Pat
Eddery won a nursery for Writie Larks on She's Dynamina at Haydock. The fact test he's of
the stable's Sweet Nisture (drawn low here) to ride Richerd Harnon's Secret Pleasure is
worth noting. Secret Pleasure has hed two runs since a mid-sesson rest and she rates a big
danger eiter shaping so well on her debut behind Life A Hawk at Salsbury in May. Sweet
Nature, badly drawn at Sandown on her second start, won afterwards on the al-weather at
Wolverhampton and is certainly in with a storu prouding the draw does not down't eigenst
her. Repetitiets got her act toglother at Haydock last time, though this is a furtong further Wolverhampton and is certainly in with 9 shout prouding the draw does not count egainst her. Repetitives got her act together at Heydock last time, though this is a futiong further and the second, Chalice, was only fifth in a Heydock numery yestertay. Stop Play, 48 house in after beating Sweet Nature two lengths at Vermouth, has been bester in two numeries since. This better ground could beto her and Ray Cochrane is an interesting booking, while socially is shorter the after Lingfield (7h) could set Asidiang For Klaps, who was earlier a bit unludy against Fenna at Yarmouth, Prisas Volta has been raised Sib despite a listest defeat here behind Pacific Grove over seven furlongs. She had previously bearen Obsessive of Kempton and that filly has since won at Yarmouth and hunted up the useful Ruzzeman in a Listed Selection: STANDOWN.

		g and went very well."	Yesterday's results, page 30
	3.40	CHALLENGE STAKES (CL. £50,000 added 71 Penalty	ASS A) (Group 2) 64
ī	21.1343	SOVIET LINE (19) (D) (Malagum A) Makaga	m) M Struce 5 94W R Swinburn 8
2	103510	COOL MZZ (11) (Seed Manenzi C British	480
•	245-144	· EMPEROR JONES (USA) (47) (CD) (Godolo	hard Saced by Surpor 5.90Pat Eddery 3
Ĺ	212420	MISTLE CAT (USA) (61) (D) (PK L Chu) S V	toods 5 8 0
	533114	HARMER (USA) (18) (C) (D) (Hamdan A) Ma	sidoum) W R Hesti 3 8 12
3	121550	SHAHID (12) (D) (Harndan Al Mastoumi) D	uniop 3 8 11R Cocheape 1
,	1-30602	AUTUMN AFTAIR (6) (Ray Richards) C Britis	n 388 D Harrison 2
3	11-32	RED CARMWAL (USA) (IA) (C) (BF) (Chave	ey Park Stud) M Stoute 3 8 8

BETTING: 7-4 Hersylt, 5-2 Red Carelysil, 9-2 Emperor Jones, 11-2 Soviet Use, 10-1 Cool Juzz, 14-1 Shabid, 29-1 Matte Cit, 59-1 Actures Affair 1994: Zeters 4-9 D L Detroit 13-2 U Gostieri 8 ran

Red Cambral was really buzzing when six beat Harayir in the Cherry Hinton and she is now 4llb better off. She is also the fresher of the two after reappearing from a five-month layoff to chase home Bin Rosle over a mile here a fortinght ago. Herrayir, the 1,000 Guineas winner, continues to hold her form and she couldn't be faulted against the speedsters in the backer has time when Gool Jazz, alded by the stands' side rial, beat her Luder a langth Into fourth. Harayir could easily win this back over a more suitable trip, whereas the likes of Soviet Liau, outgood when second to Zeton in the race 12 months up, and Emperor Jones, seem better sitted to a mile. SHAHIID beat Mistle Cat in the Becswing at Newcastle early in the season and the soft ground was against him at Goodwood lest time. In a trappy race, Shahid is worth the risk at decent odds.

Selection: SHAHID. 4.15 MILCARS LEASING HANDICAP (CLASS D) £6,000 C4

	_		aduce Til Lewer Agine 20-000
•	1	030500	SOTOBOY (23) (Mrs Martene Holis) P Haros 3 9 10
1	2	013	TARANA (6) (D) (SF) (Mrs. J Callagram) N Callagram 3 9 10
1	3	40-350	WILLIE CONQUER (12) Raymond Tooth) R Alichaet 3 9 8
1	4		AZDENAR (USA) (12) (Kamelen Al Maktoum) J Dunlop 3 9 8
1	5	440506	AERONING (USA) [12) (The PET Group) G Harwood 4 9 7
•	6	036400	REVERAND TRICKNESS (\$2) (The Waterstey Partnership) 9 Williams 4 85
ı	7	021/100	FLORING OCEAN (48) (D) (F Al-Nesser) Miss G Kelleyay 5 95
	8	601000	MOUNTGATE (UI) (I F Couptant) M Bleby 3 9 0
•	9	132415	GUESSTIMATION (USA) (5) (C) (D) (Quinter Partnership) 1 Pearce 6 9 0 S Drowne (3) 9
	20	04-40	DUCKING PT DAG Dare Wegant J Fansheue 3 8 13
	11	623335	WALDO (12) (D) (Geotiey C Greenwood) Lord Hursington 4 8 12 D Harrison 3
l	12		FLIRTY GERTIE: (26) (8F) (Mrs G F R Boss) R Boss 3 8 11
•	13	0530	251.DA ZONK (12) (Mrs Christine Pernang) 8 Mechan 3 8 10
	14	0000000	ASTRAL WEEKS (29) IG Howard-Spinki R Hannon 4 8 9
	15	0-03	GOLDEN TOUCH (USA) (23) (Mrs Rus Goulrey) R Champion 3 8 6
	18		CRIMISON SHOWER (\$4) (b) (Mrs David Russell) J Farthame 3 8 1
	17		SALTANDO (6) (Mrs Sandy Hessiget Pot Messell 4 7 13
	18		PRYSHIPPES (USA) (20) (CD) (P Develson-Brown) Mrs M Reveloy 8 7 7 G Bardwell 21
	19		MIGHTY MINGDOM (30) (D) (John Purcel) C Dayer 4 7 7Mertin Dayer (7) 5
	20		EROUGHTOR'S PORT (28) Quid Rowallers W Musson 5 7 7
	21	005145	BENUARONG (12) (D) (Nes Mangers Brown) R McKeller 3 7 7
	22	600050	BALLESTRO (87) Cont Venture Roang J Flach-Hoyes 3 7 7
	140-		the Tee 7th Tour boundary and the Military Martiner Tee Etc. Describerary Dark Tee 7th Day

- 22 declared Minimum weights: 7sr 7b. True handloop weight: Allighey Ringdom 7st 5b, Broughton's Port 7st 2b, BenJarong 7st 1b, Bullesto 6sr 7s.

BETTRING 9-2 Themse, 5-1 Artiflhaus, 9-1 Genestimation, 10-1 Waldo, 12-1 Crimson Shower, Fifty
Serice, William Bengers, 34-1 Benjarong, Decling, Sattando, 18-1 others

1994: Youyours Revers 4-8 5 S Langen 10-1 U Peace) 29 ran

FORM GRUDE

Tarawa and the progressive filly Azolfman are in with every chance but MOUNTGATE has
been playing about a bit with his usual apprentice partner and Ray Cochrane could be the
man to hold him together. He was pulling double when he dispect the heels of a rival and
unshaped David McCabe on the July course three outings ago and the seven-furiong trip at
hisydock last time was too short for him. Subsequently withdrawn at Ponteiract after unshipping McCabe on the way to the start. Mountgate can certainly win it on his Beverley victory over Concer (in in July, Tarawa was heavily backed when that to Night Dance at Ascocon Saturdey, Azdinear botted home in a filles' handloop at Heydock (7f) last time. Guesself-

			Selection: MOUNTGATE
4.5	0	EBF CHESTERTON MAIDEN STAKES (CLAS 2YO 1m Penalty Value £7,925	S D) £9,000 added
	3	BOWLED OVER (14) IR M Over COVEY 9 D	Pari Eddery 5
	_	CENSOR Bood Howard de Walden) H Cect 9 0	
		ELASRATH (RISA) [Hamdon Al Maldoumy J Gosden 8 D	
		PLOCHECK (USA) (Stonethorn Stud Farms Limited) J Dunlop 9	DR Cochrane &
	D	HARMARN (14) (Harrdon Al Maksoum) W.R. Hern 8.0	M Percett 9
	•	MOHAMMAD (Zind A Gelacum) J Hills 9 D	
	0	ORDIOCO ROVER (USA) (3.6) (R E Sangago) P Chapple-tham 9	0 Reid 13
	Ď	PRINCE KINGSKY (61) (Mrs. J.L. History Lord Humanaton 90	D Hardson 4
		PROSPERO (J C Smith) I Baiding 9 0	
D	50	ROBAMASET (25) (Scurlery Reneath St.) L. Currani 9 0	
ĭ		SACHO (Shelich Mohammed) J Goeden 9 D	
2		SILVER DOME (USA) (Buctuam Cal Holdings) H Capi 8 C	
3		SUFFOR Gord Howard de Walden) W Javes B D	14 Tabbedt 1
ă	5	THREE HELS (22) (X Abouguri) B Hats 8.0	
5	•	VILLAGE KING (N Aherred) R Hennon 90	
-		- 15 deciared -	

act 11-1 Hayasis, 12-1 Rochack, 13-1 Prospero, Salter, 18-1 others 1934: Vettod 2 8 0 M J Kingne 5-1 (H Cecil) 26 ran

TAUNTON

2.15 Dominion's Dream 2.45 Northern Starlight 3.15 Royal Saxon 3.45 Persian Saint 4.20 No-biely 4.55 Quasimodo 5.25 Merilns Dream

COING: Good to Firm (Good in places)

Right-hand course. Run-in of 150yds.
Course is 5 of form on Balto. Taunton station 2m. ADMISSION: Members 511; Paddock 58.50; Centre of Course 54. CAR

SIS AN THICK

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Doubled Dream (3.15) won at Winstellon on Thersity.

LONG-DUSTANCE EUNNERS: Ray River (2.15) has been sent 206 miles by K Winspowe from Newwarter, Smileit.

2.15 SUN PUNTERS CLUB NOVICE CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,400 3YO 2m 1f 1211 DOMINIONES DREAM (7) (37 M Fige 11.2 ______ D Bridgenber

65 IRE MON (SID.) Hills 11 ______ D Bridgenber

65 IRE MON (SID.) Hills 11 ______ D Sadaw (8)

87P ARRONALE AMBERT (35) R BROTHERS 30 12 ______ Haves

5 RAY RIVER (SID.) K Wington 10 9 ______ J Bren

AROLA ANGEL C Egymon 10 7 ______ Obtones

50 COAST MANNE (21) D Burchell 10 8 ______ D. J Burchell

COAST GUARDS HAVEN M Bollon 10 6 .______ P Hide

PETTING: 4-7 Deciminar's Dream, 11-2 hie bloo, 6-1 Alecte Angel, 10-1 Salle Mar, 12-1 Coast Along, 20-1 Elean, 33-1 others 2.45 DONYATT SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE

(CLASS G) £2,800 added 2m 1f

- 11 declared -perments 9-4 Northern Starlight, 4-1 Cortin 188, 5-1 Heighing Royal, 7-1 Mai Pan Rei, 8-1 Lorcarijo, 14-1 Fiches, Safe Secret, 18-1 others 3.15 LANSDOWNE CHEMICAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m

Minimum weight: 10cs. True handicap weight: Lucky Agein 9st 9fb. BETTING: 5-2 Ages, 11-4 Bold Choice, 3-1 Stausch West, 4-1 Royal San-3.45 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV I) £3,000 added 2m 1f PERSIAN SANT (S) (D) O Essent 4 11 4 ______ Photograph 5 USER (21) Mis 8 Water 7 20 12 _____ M A Fitzgenial M A Fitzgenial PORICIANA (JSS) Miss C Johnsey 6 10 12 ____ Photograph MSTER (PARADOY (315) R Abshure 4 10 11 ___ S Burney 5 SAN DIEGO CHARGER (21) A Berow 4 10 11 ___ S Burney 5 SAN DIEGO CHARGER (21) A Berow 4 10 11 ___ S Burney 6 SAN DIEGO CHARGER (21) A Berow 4 10 11 ___ S Burney 6 SAN DIEGO CHARGER (21) A Berow 4 10 11 ___ S Burney 6 SAN DIEGO CHARGER (21) A Berow 4 10 11 ___ S Burney 6 SAN DIEGO CHARGER (21) A Berow 4 10 11 ___ S Burney 6 SAN DIEGO CHARGER (21) A Berow 4 10 11 ___ S Burney 6 SAN DIEGO CHARGER (21) A BEROW 5 SAN DIEGO CHARGER (21) A BEROW 5 SAN DIEGO CHARGER (22) A BEROW 5 SAN DIEGO CHARGER (23) A SAN DIEGO CH P-4 SEA DREAMS (77) J Smith 4 10 11 .

9 SLP A CORN () SUPPM 4 1D 6 JP Determine 10 2 ST KITTS (395) W G M Lunyr 4 1D 6 JP Detectory — 30 declared — SETTING: 5-4 Parales Salut, 4-1 Polaciona, 8-1 Mister O'Grach, 10-1 Bushing St Kitts, 12-1 Silp A Coin, 14-1 He's A King, 14-1 others 4.20 ISEFLO IODINE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 110yds 23-2112 TOOMICH TOOSOON (SS) (P) (RP) NI Ppo 7 12 0 LB Purell 1653-21 NOBLEY (20) (D) NI Valley 8 11 7 R Delivinosoly 046255 CAPO CASTANUR (270) Mass H Kingle 6 11 0 F Talley 0715-50 EMERIALD MICON (73) P Rooting 8 11 0 S Teurough 75 PROMISS (10) Name 1 0 Revolution 1 11 0 AP MicCoy PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MicCoy PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MicCoy PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MicCoy PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MicCoy PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MicCoy PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MicCoy PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MicCoy PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MicCoy PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MicCoy PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MicCoy PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) Nicolo 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCOY PAPA COMMISS (10) NICOLO 7 11 0 AP MICCO

5/04412- NORSE RAIDER (159) M Fpg 5 10 13. - 7 declared --7 deciared BETTING: 9-4 Noblety, 5-2 Capo Castanesa, 7-2 Norse Raider, 5-1
Toometh Tooses, 10-1 Rayram, 20-1 Contro Star, Emerald Moon

9 335403- J BRAND (178) R Hodge 8 10 4 _____ 10 0105-44 DUNE OF DREAMS (12) R Baler 5 10 1 _ - 10 declared -BETENR: 5-2 Hordic Valley, 3-1 Quastmodo, 7-2 Chickabidoy, 6-1 Green Island, 7-1 Nordic Grown, Glegic Jim, 12-1 Delier Of Dreams, 10-1 others 5.25 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICE HURDLE
(CLASS E) (DIV II) £3,000 added 2m 1f
1 0P21P SPENDERS HOUSE [JA] (I) Nierdeson 6 115 JA A Regards
BNASANA O Basenth 5 10 12 Pholey DIGPAST (27) R O'Sulfivan 5 10 12 5 DIGPMST (27) R O'Sulfiver 5 10 12 ______ D O'Sulfiver 10-5F4 ______ D Bidglotter 10-5F4 ______ D Bidglotter 1, ALDDHUL K Behop 8 10 11 _______ L Hurvey QV ______ ITTLE_LOE (122) J Some 8 10 11 _______ D DWS ______ D SOME (125) D SOME (12 BETTING: 5-2 Morfus Drawn, 7-2 Balances, 4-1 Specier's No al Trimbio, 8-1 Dignest, 10-1 Forest Princess, 20-1 others

4.55 CAVENDISH TECHNOLOGY HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £4,000 2m 3f 110yds

Juninho's attitude will ridicule the empty-headed notion that a player with sublime gifts is entitled to special dispensation

missed is that if Pele was nnt the hest footballer that ever lived, he is as near to it as we are ever

At a peak, Alfredo di Stefann, Diego Maradnna and Genrge Best came close hut not close enough. Pele had it all; technical brilliance, imaginatino, remarkable vision, physical vigour, pace, stamina, persistence, enormnus presence and a great passion for the game. If pro-

voked he could be spiteful too. Nubody in formali tuday compares with Pele, hut because of predictable lnose thinking in some areas of my trade it is bound to he a hurden for the 22-year-old ago, George Eastham of Arsenal. Brazilian international Juninhn, Newcastle and Stoke, and Tommy

raised a great deal of excitement. Juninhn is no more the natural

successor to Pele than his hero, the richly talented Zico, was. He is a gifted, frail-looking forward whose creative instincts, along with the impression that he had been diverted from a schnnlboy game, were immediately evident in the Umbro Cup here last summer. Since Brazilian football is not-

ed for nothing so much as its flair, an interesting thing personally is that at first sight, both in appearance and on the hall, Juninho evoked memories of twn fine English players from 30 and more years

One opinion that has been held whose transfer from San Pauln to Harmer of Tottenham and here too lnng to be lightly dis-Middlesbrough has understandably Chelsea. A deft_dribbler and caps hut, like Harmer, who perfirmed many feats of productive wizardry for Inttenham Hotspur, was considered to be lacking in strength and resilience.

It is possible that something similar will soon be expressed about Juninho as it was when Brazil's captain, Dunga, first came across him in the national team's dressing-room before a match against Israel. Astonished by the new recruit's boyish appearance, Dunga asked Mario Zagain whether it had become a policy to select players from the youth team. Two hours later, Dunga knelt theatrically at Juninho's feet.



That tale emerged from an interpreted conversation I had with uninho one evening last summer. New to our love affair with Brazilian foothall, he was thrilled by praise for his skills and the team's reception generally. "I want to a product of the inothall schools world. For example, Brazil would garded in Brazil as a middle-class probably have won the 1982 World. For example, Brazil would probably have won the 1982 World. For example, Brazil would probably have won the 1982 World. For example, Brazil would probably have won the 1982 World. For example, Brazil would probably have won the 1982 World. For example, Brazil would probably have won the 1982 World. For example, Brazil would probably have won the 1982 World. For example, Brazil would probably have won the 1982 World. For example, Brazil would probably have won the 1982 World. For example, Brazil would probably have won the 1982 World.

ever said anything similar it must have heen when it was fashionable to turn nut in tasselled headgear.

A popular misconception about shaped on the beaches of Rio. Pele, in fact, developed on the dusty, rutted streets of a remote railway junction and did not see the ocean until he was selected as a teenager for

Neither does Juninho conform to the nation of foothall as a means of escape from disenfranchisement. He is from what is re-

fective internationally when looking as though he should he introduced to a diet of suet pudding and stout, is ant only a trib-Brazilian football is that skills are ute to his inner strength but perhaps significant to the controversy that surrounds Matthew Le Tissier's continued omission from the England team.

To suppose Le Tissier would be an automatic selection for Brazil is to he in ignorance of qualities demanded by activity in leagues that can be more brutal than any in the world. For example, Brazil would

thank everybody who has spoken and written good things about us," that have grown up there in recent and written good things about us," that have grown up there in recent whose career was ended prematured by a succession of savage.

That Juninho should prove so effectively by a succession of savage tackles that wrecked both his knees.

Skill has never been the solitary basis for selection in Brazil as Pele never failed to demonstrate. Since retiring he has said, "People may say that technically Pele was not so good or that he missed some goals he should have scored. But never in my 25 years as a player could anyone say that Pele does nnt run in the field."

There is no guarantee that Jun-inho will instantly be a spectacular success in the Premiership, but we can be sure that his attitude will ridicule the empty-headed notion that a player with sublime gifts is entitled to special dispensation.

Bristol first to offer the money

Rugby Union STEVE BALE

Bristnl stole a march on the rest of the English First Division last night when they announced the embrace of "full professionalism" as soon as the Rugby Football Union would allow - which at the moment is next season, at the end nf the RFU's moratorium nn

cluh payment.
This is the cluh's response to the depredations of other clubs who have been seeking or have already taken their players. A gaggle nf old boys headed by Derek Eves, the former captain, has already dropped into the Third Division with Coventry, and Newcastle of the Second Division have been trying to sign Garath Archer, Martin Corry

All three have now turned down the money - between £30,000 and £40,000 a year - being offered by Roh Andrew, Newcastle's development director, in favour of a deal with Bristol which could be worth £50,000 each per season.

Such a substantial sum would be dependent on where Champinnship as well as achieving individual represen-

Bristnl's search for the capital to fund this bold venture begins now, headed hy Derek Brown, the husinessman who ousted the firmer England scrum-half and selector, Bill Redwond, as chairman during

ensure that its rise to the top of

the club is determined to lead the way into the new era and has already agreed with its players a structure that will lead to a smooth transitinn to full professionalism next season. Lucrative employment contracts will be prepared for all first-team squad players which will include provising for past loyalty and commitment."

Bristol have thus put in place something everyone else is still talking about while impatiently awaiting RFU guidance. They were stirred into action by the sight of their players making a procession to the North-east for talks with Andrew, who has yet in annunce any Newcastle signing other than himself.

Archer and Corry, England Under-21 forwards last season, were prime targets since they have only just left Newcastle for employed, even Sharp, Bristolian tempted once Bristol had put

their nwn package together. Also influential was the RFU's much-criticised 120-day qualification period and Newcastle's increasingly parlous position in the Second Division. "Rob has asked me to take too big a risk nf dropping down a league for at least half a season when I've set

HAYDOCK

HAYDOCK
2.00: 1. CARTERHOUSE XPRES (N Variety) 20-1; 2. Precious Carl 7-1; 3. Heer The Music 5-4 fex. 3.1 ran. 2, 1 v., (M McCormack, Wartage), Tobe: £42.80; £4.80, £2.70; £1.10. Dual Forecast: £132.20. Computer Straight Forecast: £148.80. Tricses: £280.90. Tric: £45.80.
2.30: 1. INCHRORY (Pat Eddory) 4-6 tav, 2. Selmis 9-4; 3. Clessic Romance 9-2. 4 ran. v., 9. Int Cecl. Nowmarket), Web: £1.80. Dual Forecast: £1.60. CSF: £2.51.
3.00: 1. DOUBLE £5 PELENDOUR (W Ryan) 6-1; 2. Be Warned 15-2; 3. Pale Blanco 9-1: 4. Presidition 33-1. 24 san. 7-1 far Sue Mc. 13v., str. hd. (P Felgote, Listum), Totes: £106.90; £2.10, £3.50, £2.30, £15.00, Dual Forecast: £196.90. CSF: £72.94. Tricast: £540.54. Tric: £334.10.

Forevast: £196.90. CSF: £72.94. Tricast: £540.54. Tric: £334.10.

3.30: 1. SEBASTIAN (Pot Eddey) 1.2 fav;
2. Mack The Kolfe 4-1; 3. Mush Terrace 51. 5 ran. 4, 1.×... (H Cecil, Newmarked), Totac: £1.40; £1.10. £1.90. DF: £2.00. CSF: £2.94.

E1.40; E1.10, E1.90, DF: E2.00, CSF: E2.94,
4.00: 1 POLAR ECLIPSE () Weaver) 7.
1; 2. Alexandra 2-1; 3. Spillo 13-8 fox 9 ran, 1/4, 9. (M Johrston, Middlell-3-8 fox 9 ran, 1/4, 9. (M Johrston, Middlell-3-8 fox 9 ran, 1/4, 9. (M Johrston, Middlell-3-8 fox 9 ran, 1/4, 10: E7.40, E1.30, DF: E7.60, CSF: E21.27, Thic E7.40, 4.30: 1. DEBUBANTE DAVS (M Roberts) 10-1; 2. Mistinguest 9-1; 3. Wald Rita 16-1; 4. Shift Again 20-1. 16 ran, 9-2 fox Heboob Alshemaal 15th), 2/c. /a. (M Stowart, Neumarkott), Totae E12.30: E3.10, E3.50, E2.70, E6.50, DF: E128.90, CSF: £95.97. Thic E798.70 part won, pool of £798.70 carned forward to Neumarket 4.15 today). The cast: £1.333.40, 5.00: 1, RICHELIEU (W Ryan) 6-1; 2. Tak-87 2.1 fax; 2. Authurm Wings 10-1, 19 ran, rix, 1/4, (H Csc), Neumarket, Totae E5.00; £2.10, E1.70, EA.00, DF: E7.50, CSF: £19.76, Inc. £40.70, NR: Kirkadian.

£2.10, £1.70, £4.00, DF: £7.50, C9F: £19.76, Ino: £40.70, NR; Hirkadien. 5.30: 1 CRRCLED IM Hels 10-1: 2, Name of Our Farther 7-2; 3, Feg City 100-30, 9 man, 5-4 fav Dombey 4thl. 8, 1½, (8 Hills, Lambourn). Note: £13.70; £1.90, £1.70, £1.30. DF: £24.50, CSF: £43.32. Trio: £19.70. After a stewards' impuly, the placings remained unattered.

lacisate not won good of £54,317.39 to New-mariet todoyl. Pleospott £63,90, Quadpott £80,60, Place & £80,81, Place & £34,81

TODAY'S FIXTURES Rugby League

HALIFAX CENTENARY WORLD GUP

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND Promier Division: Dundail v Sigo Rovers (7.45). PONTIRS LEAGUE First Division: Oktom v Bolton (7.0); Soliv s Profiled Utd (7.0); West Bromwich v Manchester Utd (7.0); PREMIER LEAGUE: Ipswich v Pools (7.30); Middlesbrough v Belle Vue (7.30); Sheffleto v Bradford (1945).

Other sports GOLF: Toyota World Match Play Championship (Wentworth). pannis: Men's and women's satellite tour-naments (Birmingham).

the rugby union ladder is not restrained by approaches to its players by other clubs," Brown said last night, "Bristol is wellpositioned to meet all the requirements of the new game, and its young squad appears to he going from strength to strength.
The general committee of

Bristol finished in the Courage Bristol. Despite being unleague and cup matches and Scotland prop, could not be

"Bristol Football Cluh has my sights on the international decided to take the initiative to scene," Corry said.

RACING RESULTS

WETHERBY 2.20: 1. DAWN MISSION (I. Wyer) 11-1; 2. Samela Hara 20-1; 3. On A Pedestal 5-1.14 ran. 2-1 fav Done Well (8th). 1, 3. (M H Easterby). Totar: £16.50; £3.60, £11.70, £2.00. DF: £1,137.30. CSF: £204.87. Dual Forecast: £1,137.30. Tho: £733.70

£11.70, £2.00, DF: £1,137.30, CSF: £204.87, Dual Forecast: £1,137.30, Tro: £273.70, 2.50: 1. VAVASIR (P. Niver) 15-8. It fair, 2. Kunstidaty 13-2; 3. Scarf 5-1. 5 ran. 15-8. It fair Peruvion Gale (fel), 30, 5. (Mes Luchida V. Russell), Tote: £2.50; £1.30, £2.20, DF: £8.30, CSF: £1.83, 3.20: 1. STOY ANAME (P. Niver) 4-1; 2. New Inn event fair, 3. Bend Sable 10-1. 3 ran. 174, 4. (Mrs. M. Reveley), Tote: £4.60; £1.40, £1.10, £2.90, DF: £3.50, CSF: £8.48, Troast: £34.34, 3.50: 1. TOOGGOOD TO BE TRUE (I. Wyer) 6-4 fair, 2. De Jordann 9-2; 3. Benoucations 9-2, 5 ran. 1, 30, Mr H. Essterbyl, Tote: £2.00; £1.70, £1.20, DF: £3.60, CSP: £7.87, 4.20: 1. DESERT FIGHTER (P. Niver) 6-4 fair; 2. Simply Destring 9-2; 3. Down The Fell 5-2, 1.2 ran. 1, 13, (Mrs. M. Raveley), Tota: £2.70; £1.50, £1.70, £1.40, DF: £4.90, CSP: £9.66, Tric: £5.10,

4.50: 1. SOUTH WESTERLY (P Niver) 4-5 fev; 2. Aritam 100-30; 3. Cherry Polecy 3-1. 4 ran. 11, 15, (Mrs M Reveley). Yote: £1.80. DF: £2.60, CSP: £3.79, NR: Wiler-

foss. Placepot: £19.20. Quadpot: £5.40. Place 6: £26.62. Place 5: £4.53. EXETER

2.10: 1. SPRUNG RHYTHM (T.J Murphy) 13-8 fee; 2. Romelto 16-1; 3. Forcion's Con-quest 40-1. 14 ran. 15, 15. (K Bailey). Tota: £2.30; £1.10. £2.80, £14.80. DP. £9.60. CSF: £27.65. Tho: £177.50 (pert won, pool of £205.00 to Newmarket 4.15 today). 2.40: 1. UP THE JUNCTION (P Holes) 7-2; 2. Koo's Promites 40-1; 3. Them Times 14-1. 8 run. 13-8 for Saron Magic. 2, 5. (Ms P.Duffield). Note: £4-10; £1-50, £6-00, £2-90. Df: £98.10. 657. £62.42. Thrast: £1.567.96.

owing to fog

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number that Juninha will wear on his Middlesbrough shirt. The 22-year-old midfielder wears No 10 for Brazil, following in the footsteps of Pele, but the striker John Boro and numbers cannot be Reaching for the stars; Britain's Jamie Delgado serves in the lonely setting of Billesley Tennis Centre as he strives to reach the big time Baseliners try to escape the breadline

peting nn the world professional circuit while the small number of ATP Tour whacking balls nn crowded local courts are not so far removed from reality as they

In contrast to Wimhledon's prestige and £6,025,550 prize money, Billesley Tennis Centre. Birmingham, promises perspiratinn, frustration and only minor elation, plus an opportunity to win a percentage of £4,000 (£500 going to the victor).

Billesley is currently hosting a satellite tournament, the low-

est level of the events on the men's international tour. Satellites are a harsh proving ground for the rank and file in a sport which offers vast wealth for the few who reach the top, such as Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras, and a meagre subsistence for the majority helow 200 on the computer.

The strata of men's professional tournaments rises from the satellites up through the ATP Tour series, which range from \$50,000 (£32,000) Challengers to \$2.25m Super 9 events, and is topped by the four Grand Slam championships of Wimbledon, the United States, France and Australia.

What distinguishes the Billesley event at the lower end of the scale is the title, "satellite masters". This is not as grand as it seems, except for the 24 participants who battled for three weeks to get there by competing in the previous segments of the Lawn Tennis As-

world ranking points players have gained in the process. This brings the possibility of entry to the lucrative tournaments nearer and helps keep

the dream alive. But there is no sense of octween a visit to the Billesley indoor centre today and a week ago is the presence of umpires, line judges, the Wimhledon referee, Alan Mills, and the odd spectator viewing fierce matches from a walkway between the courts.

One of the referee's duties at the end of each satellite is to file a report to the International Tennis Federation, including at-tendance figures. "On average we get about 300 spectators for the whole week," Mills says, and it's usually the same people coming back three or fnur times. The atmosphere is not there, and also conditions are not the greatest. For instance, here I don't like having to play three matches side by side - the balls are flying all over the place - and in the middle court you can't put a service linesman on." Mills nfficiates at British

satellites four nr five weeks per year. His next tournament is a \$2.25m ATP Tour event in Essen, which has attracted the top 24 players in the world. The names will be familiar, the standards higher, but Mills does not anticipate keener contests. "The top end of the game sociation's £16,000 autumn comes down to money, to a cer-sateltite circuit at Wirral, tain extent," he says, but at this

Inthusiasts who make beTelford and Nottingham. The John Roberts looks at the harsh side first satellite final at Nottingham. The first satellite final at Nottingham. The first satellite final at Nottingham. The first satellite final at Nottingham. "masters" is the conversion of of tennis, the satellite circuit where players scramble for ATP ranking points and the chance to pursue their dreams

> they can improve their ranking. The level of competition is intense, week in, week nut, and of casion. The nnly difference be- all the nnes that try, very few make it."

At Wimhlednn, Mills had to to deal with the Jeff Tarango af-fair, one of three disqualifica-tions during the championships. Tempers are also apt to fray on the satellite circuit. "The players are all very close, living together for three or four weeks, media folk at Eastbourne.

ly around about for the the latter part of the third week, Whole week' when they know

they've got tn get wins to get more circuit in the 900s. Johansson has points to either get into the mas-ters or to be seeded in the mas-to Nn 134. By qualifying for ters, which makes a hig difference.

"It's a long time to take, that four weeks, which only counts as one tournament, after which you get your few ATP points. So I can understand them getting a bit tired and frustrated. When I come to consider code violations, I take into account the conditions they're playing under. It's all right for

end of the game it's points so one or two whn do well, hut I think the majnrity of them slog themselves to death and come

nut with very little." Tennis in a vacuum is a challenging experience. Britain's James Baily, it may be remem-bered, won the Australian Open junior singles title in 1993 but was unable to make a successful transition to the senior game on his return when thrust into a satellite with an audience of

which doviously creates frustrations," Mills says. "Consequently you get the ndd little hits of niggle going of niggle going of niggle going of about the normal share of the for the control of the form where normal share of the formal share of the form where normal share of the formal s

February, when he was ranked to Nn 134. By qualifying for Billesley, Arvind Parmar, a 17year-nld juning from Hertfordshire, can look forward to receiving his first computer

four weeks of

the LTA win-

ter circuit in

Two British semi-finalists, Barry Cowan and Colin Beecher, will gain their highest rankings, around the 300 mark. Cowan plays Robbie Koenig, a 24-year-old South African whose career has been dis-

the guys talk to each other. It's tough, hut it's tough in the business world, it's tough if you're an engineer nr a dnetor. We've got to put nur time in at the beginning. This is the grinding time. The rewards are much bigger when you start doing better.

Koenig, who prospered during his first year as a pro, used his prize-money to finance his travelling and supplements his earnings by playing the stock market. He is currently ranked Nn 549. "I want to get to know all kinds of things," he says. "I want other challenges. You only play tennis until you're 30. I'm not going to end up being a ten-nis burn."

Britain's Paul Hand is 30, has a BA in business studies, a ranking of Nn 390 and has spent eight years on the satel-lite circuit. He no longer competes overseas, and uses the hame satellites to keep his ranking reasonably respectable while making most of his income from the dnmestic Reebok Tour, which offers money but an ranking points. "Basically I can't afford to

travel any more," Hand says. "Flights and hotels are getting too expensive. I went to Asia with Chris Wilkinson last year to play some Challengers for three weeks, and I came back two grand light, so I just thought, 'this is stupid'."

Hand reckons to earn up to

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that, so I probably bank about "The guy you're playing is your worst enemy," Koenig says, "but nff the court most nf

a studio flat in Snuthampton with my girlfriend, and the rent is nominal. I practise with a squad down there and get paid for it a little hit. I can't afford a flash lifestyle, but I dnn't want that. I'm happy dning what I dn."

He hopes to remain fit to continue for three or four years, and may then turn to coaching "I love the whnle scene," Hand says, his nuly complaint heing that fureign players tend to he "spoiled" by free transportation at the LTA's satellites, whereas in most countries visiting competitors have to fend for them-

Nick Gould, a 23-year-old from Bath with a ranking of No 411, can vouch for that. "People whn make nut that it's very glamorous travelling the world don't know the half of it," he says. "Fortunately I haven't had anything drastic happen to me so far, but you don't see your friends a lot, and there are places where you can't get flights home and have to sleep in airports overnight, and there are a lot of nasty bottel rooms

with bugs on the wall." He intends to persevere awhile. "At the moment I feel I can gn a lnt higher. If I didn't feel I was going to come nut of satellites within twn years I'd have to think again. You can't make a living just from liking something. You've

Montgomerie prepares to play through pain

Although he was born in Australia, Steve Elkington has spent so much time and earned so much money in America his heart probably lies at his home in Hnuston, Texas. As the Ryder Cup reached its climax in Rochester, New York, Elkington watched the match on television in Taiwan at 3am. "I had tears running down my face," he said. What prompted this show of

emotion was not that Elkington

felt sad for two of his friends nn

the United States team, Brad Fax-

on and Jeff Maggert, but that be

was delighted for the wins of Sam

Today Torrance and Rocca, with Elkington, who then rolled who between them have won more than £1m in prize-money with Elkington, who then rolled in a 20-foot putt to win the first so straight on every hule. He and extra hole. "He deserved to win Greg Norman are probably the more than £1m in prize-money this season, resume the cut and thrust of head-tn-head combat in the Toyota World Match Play Championship over the Burma Road. In the first round, Torrance plays Bernhard Langer

and Rocca meets Vijay Singh. In the nther two first-round matches, Lee Janzen plays Katsuyoshi Tomori and Colin Montgomerie takes on David Duval. If Montgomerie, who is nursing a wrist injury, survives to the second round, he will play Elkington, who beat him in a sudden-death finish to the US PGA Championship in July. Montgomerie hirdied the last as much as I did," Elkington said. The remark was not meant for public consumption, but was relayed to Montgomerie by fax.

They are both aged 32 and both played golf at universities in Houston. Whereas Elkington won All-American hunnurs, Mnntgomerie did not set the campus alight. "He did nothing in college," Elkington said. "In fact, I wasn't sure that his future was in golf. He's the ultimate late hioomer."

Elkington thought that Monty's swing was "unorthodox", but after the US PGA he studied the Scot's style on video. "It looked Torrance and Costantinn Rocca. three holes to get into a play-off perfect," Elkington said. "I want-

Greg Norman are probably the best drivers in the world."

Montgomerie, who was beaten by Ernie Els in last year's final, will have heat and laser treatment on his painful wrist before teeing off this morning. "It would be very difficult to pull out at this stage," Montgomerie

The 24-year-old Daval is making his debut in the championship. He turned professional two years ago and has won so much money this season on the US Tour he has made the top 10, and will probably become their rookie of the year.

Duval has not played at Wentworth before, but he made a significant impression in Scotland this year on courses that were new to him.

He had a good run in the Scottish Open at Carnoustie and was on the leaderboard in the Open at St Andrews until taking a seven at the Road said. "and I never finished in the top 10 in America."

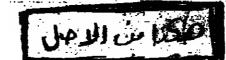
If the matches go the distance, the top four seeds have the advantage. They have a free day today, although Els says Even if Montgomerie had not he is in the mood to defend. By bad a suspect wrist, the odds are last year's standards, the South

close match with the American. "With the talent he has," Montgomerie said, "never write him

off for anything,"
While retaining membership of the US Tour next year, Els. forming a pressure group with Norman and Nick Price, intends to play more in Europe. He has bought a house in Lake Nnna, Florida, the base of David Leadbetter and his team. "I still have Hnle. "I have been a good faults in my swing." Els said. In player fur years, "Elkingtun a non-vintage field, it is the Elk. rather than Eis, who could land

Father than Els, who could land the £170,000 first prize.

TOYOTA WORLD MATCH PLAY CHAMPICNSHIP (Westburdth De-off times: 6615 sest 1230; L. Jarzen (US) v K Tomon Lipan). Winners of the £15 km (Lipan) is a fine (GB) v 8 Linger (Ge). Winner to play N Prec (Zim) 6645 and 1300; C Montgomene (GB) v 10 Linger (GB). Winner to Play N Elione. Lon (Aust. 6800 and 1315; C Rocca (ft) v V Singh (Fif). Winner to play 8 Crenthaw (US).



extinction

Rugby League

South Africa's battered players insist they will not throw in the towel despite the heavy punishment they have taken so far in the Ceotenary World Cup. In the space of three days, the South Africans have cooceded

138 points in two games, including a world record Test defeat of 86-6 against Australia on Tuesday at Gateshead.

The contrast with the Spring-bok side who won rugby union's World Cup to the delight of President Nelsoo Mandela in June could scarcely be greater, but their captain, Jaco Booysen, says his side are far from disheartened.

(1)

"We're very positive," Booy-sen, who was sporting a hlack eye, said. "Particularly after the second half against Australia, morale is very high."

The Kangaroos, 52-0 up at half-time, scored a mere 34 points after the break and even allowed the Rhinos, as the South Africans are known, a try of their own.

That hooour went to prop Gideon Watts, who burrowed over by the posts to score South Africa's first try in internatiooal rugby league.

Booysen was adamant the result would oot spell the abrupt end of rugby league in a country where union remains a virtual religion for many people.

"The public will back us up," he insisted. "We are all part of

compete in the emerging oations' tournament, due to start next week, but were persuaded for largely financial reasons to enter a team for the main

They are also aligned with Rupert Murdoch's proposed Super League, a deal which should provide a massive m-jection of funds for the 13-a-side code in the Republic at a criti-

Things, however, could get worse for the Rhinos before they get hetter. Their final group match in Leeds oo Saturday is against the hosts, England, who are fresh from a memorable victory over Australia at Wembley last weekend.

A crumh of consolation was provided by the Kangaroo stand-off, Andrew Johns, who marked his Test debut with a personal haul of 30 points to equal the individual World Cup record set by his fellow countryman Michael O'Connor against Papua New Guinea seveo years ago.

"They're world champions in rugby union so they've got potential," Johns said,

Johns, the man of the match, landed II goals and added two tries to his goal-kicking feat but missed five attempts on goal and admitted he was disappointed oot to break the record.

"It's a chance that might not come again," he said. "But it was my first match for Australia and I was pleased with my performance."



Jeff Blauser, of the Atlanta Braves, is upended by Hal Morris, of the Cincinnati Reds during their National League Championship game

Mariners survive despite sailing close to wind

All the Seattle Mariners asked Bob Wolcott to give them was a few good immings. Instead, the 22-year-old rookie gave them a game to remember forever. Wolcott, pitching because the Mariners had no one else, pulled one of haseball's great-

Football .

Despite his goal in Scotland B's 2-1 win over Sweden in Stock-

holm oo Tuesday, Duncan

Shearer is playing down his

chances of making Scotland's

Euro '96 squad next summer. "I

NATIONAL LEAGUE Chempionship play-offic

FOGEDAM

Brian Horton is to take charge of the Footboll League team which will play an tailan Serie B XI at Huddersfield's McAlpine Stadium next month. The Huddersfield manager will be aiming to lead the side – selected exclusively from Endsleigh League players – to a second victory over the Italians this year in the match on Tuesday, 14 November.

Ott.
TIESDAN'S LATE RESULTS: European Under21 Chemptonship Group Two (Australia): Dermark 5 Spain 1. Group Three (Reykjandit):
lociond 2 Europy 3; (Worthington): Switzestard 2
Hungery 3. Group Fore (Whalas): Liftmans 3
Estorna C; (Ljubijane): Skorata O Uldrane 5.
Group Five (Perlampia): Limembourg 0 Beleva:
S; (Walletta): Malka O Netherlands 2. Group Six (Willerts): Malka O Netherlands 1. (Publish 2)
(Estarts 12. Roser 53) Chebrashort 1. (Publish O)
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a bases-loaded, no-outs jam in the first inning and beating the Cleveland Indians 3-2 on Tuesday night in the first game in the best of seven American League Championship series.
"It was definitely nerve-rack-

ing," Wolcott said. "It's a tremendous relief. Anything could have happened. We could've gotten blown out." est escapes, wriggling free from

rest," he said. "I have to admit, I had my doubts in the first inning. But it all worked out." Showing poise that belied his

baby face, Wolcott, making only his eighth major-league appearance, spent the whole evening putting himself in trouble and theo getting out.

Mike Devereaux, who entered the game as a defensive "We used so much of our The only sign of stress was the replacement in the ninth inning,

Shearer refuses to get carried away

pitching staff in the other series, sweat creeping out farther and singled with two out in the top I just wanted to give them a farther oo the bill of his cap, of the I lth to put Fred McGriff The Atlanta Braves hit single runs in the ninth and 11th

innings to rally for a 2-1 victory in a tense pitching duel with the Cincinnati Reds oo Tuesday, to take a 1-0 lead in the National League Championship Series.

home for the run that put them ahead. The Braves, shut down in the

first eight innings by Pete Schourek, Cincinnati's starting pitcher, have scored seven runs in the ninth inning during the play-offs.

Tom Glavine, Atlanta's starter, was pitching. "I was fortunate that I made the pitches when guys were on base, and the guys turned the double plays, Glavine said.

The left-hander, who entered the game with a 13-1 record at Cincinnati's Riverfront Stadium, had five strike-The Braves got the benefit of outs and gave up one run in his five double plays, four while seven innings of pitching.

Edwards threatens to retire over 'slur'

The England captain, Shaun near future. The Tongans are Edwards, is threatening to retire due to leave for home after losfrom international rugby over ly abused their Tongan winger, John Hopoate, in Saturday's ning World

Wembley, writes Dave Hadfield. Edwards has already denied the allegations and is consulting his solicitor." But if this is what international rugby league has come to, the way I feel at the moment is that the sooner I get away from it the better," he said.

Edwards, whose girlfriend is htack, is furious at what he sees as an outrageous slur. He criticised Hopoate after the match for sledging the England full-back, Kris Radlinski, hut takes the strongest possible exception to claims that he racially abused the player oo the pitch.

The Rugby League may bring back Tonga on a short tour in the

ing one and drawing one of their group games. The impact that they have had, however, makes the prospect of another visit an auracuve me perior mances of Fijiand Tonga suggest that the time might be right to grant them full Test status, increasing the international board's membership from five to eight.

membership from five to eight.
WESTERN SARGA (Group Tarner v France,
Cardiff, Inday): P Tulmeveve (North Herbour;
Notio (Narranders), Tulgannain (Wigon),
Schuster (Helliet, capt), Laumedia (Cronultel); Ropert (Aucklerd), Swenn (Aucklend), SSolomona (Aucklend), Penshing (Aucklend),
Afon (Penrilli), Metautia (St Helers), Estepu.
(Aucklend), T Tulmeverer (Aucklend), Substitutes: Vagana (Aucklend), Passape (Salford), Elle (Abb), Penshing (St Helers).
NEW ZEALANO (Group Two v Papua New
Gulnen, St Helens, tomorrow): Ridge
(Mank, capt): Hoppe (Aucklend), Blackwore
(Aucklend), Will (Cariberra), Williams (Sydney Bulliogs); Paul (Mghm), Joses (Aucklend);
Pongla (Cariberra), Era (Aucklend), Lowrie
(Sydney City), Kearney (Auckland), Hore (Sydney Wessis), Kemp (Leeds), Substitutes: Ngamu (Aucklend), Okeseene (Aucklend), K Iro
(Leeds), T Iro (Sydney City).

But I have a real battle on "I love it so much every time Aberdeen at the moment."

Shearer has been confined to the bench at Pittodrie this seasoo as Aberdeeo's manager. Roy Aitken, keeps faith with Scott Booth and Billy Dodds.

"I simply doo't have a case to go in and see Roy Aitken at the moment," he said. "The two guys who are playing at the moment have been exceptional for Aberdeen so far this season.

my hands getting a game for I score a goal and it was special after being asked to captain the side. I love to hear the roar of the crowd and although there was hardly anybody there in Stockholm when I scored there

was a roar ioside me. "I was also pleased that I played for almost 80 minutes because it's a hig difference stepping up to B international level from reserve team football."

Brown has already used

Shearer in Scotland's Group Eight qualifying campaign and a couple of other fringe candidates staked their claim oo Tuesday.

Midfielders Scot Gemmill (Nottingham Forest) and Paul Telfer (Coventry) impressed the B team's joint bosses, Murdo MacLeod and Tomus Burns, as a late winner from the substitute, Kilmarnock's Tom

"It was a good team perfor-mance and it was great to see us passing the ball so well away from home in Europe, MacLeod said.

Scotland are set to include more B games in their forth-

ter United.

Brown, ensured victory.

coming programme with the possibility of playing in Deomark oext April.

Darren Anderton and Gerry bish about Darren going to Francis yesterday dismissed fur-Manchester United. He is not

Anderton move denial

ther reports that the Tottenham winger is to sign for Manches-Anderton has been the sub-

about a £7m move, but the England player, who signed a fiveyear contract at the end of last season, said: "This is a complete mystery to me. As far as I'm coocerned, my situation is the same as it has been since the summer. I'm under contract at Tottee ham and I'm very happy here. It's a great cluh."

Francis, the Spurs manager, said: "I'm fed up with this rub-

6.30 P.M. TONIGHT

WE ASK THE

QUESTIONS

THEY COULDN'T

ASK.

WORLD EXCLUSIVE O.J. SIMPSON'S

going anywhere. Furthermore he doesn't want to go anywhere." The Wimhledon manager. Joe Kinnear, has escaped furject of increasing speculation ther punishment after two possible breaches of his touchline

ban, which expires at the end of the month, were reported to the Football Association. Kinnear was seeo hy the pitch during matches against Liverpool, when Andy Thorn

was "sent off" but then recalled, and against Sheffield Wednesday, but the FA has accepted explanations from match officials at the two games.

Park returns to threaten **British hopes**

British hopes of winning their first Olympic medal will eocounter an unexpected hurdle after the announcement that South Korea's Park Joo-Bong is to come out of retirement for the Atlanta Games in oine months' time, writes James Leigh.

Park, widely regarded as the

greatest all-round doubles play-er of all time, has been considering one more attempt upon a major title since the decision of the International Olympic Committee to allow mixed doubles into the programme for 1996. Among the strongest British

prospects of a first medal had appeared to be the mixed doubles, at which Nick Ponting and Joanne Wright were All-England champions last year. However, Park and Gil Young-Ah must now be the favourites for the event.

China's world beaters eye Atlanta gold

China's men gymnasts have been urged by world champion Li Xiaoshuang to surpass their World Championship tramphs

summer games.

SPORTING DIGEST Baseball

if asked.

Football

at next year's Atlanta Olympics.

pressure, so we must make more effort to improve our skills," Li said after China's meo's squad, led by Li, defended the team title in Sabae, Japan, with a margin of 3.061 points over Japan. Li also overcame the Olympic champion, Vitaly Sherbo of Belarus, and the European champion, Evgeni Chabaev of Russia. to capture the individual allaround crown for the first time.

Despite their brilliant performances, the Chinese men failed to win a single apparatus final at the championships, and must develop their skills if they are to enhance their reputation at the

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Group On	0				
Romania (C)	1	L Pr	BD06	(2)	

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Azerbaljan Remaining fixtures:	16.1	1.0	5 SI	نقب	έsν	A

"We will be put under bigger

RESULTS

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....2 Bulgeria (0) ... Stoichkov 89 45,000

Anglo-Italian Cup 1. Southead (0)1 Tilson 69 800

UNDER-21 CHAMPIONEHI immanoil: Cyona 3 Macadoni

still don't think I will be in England oext year if we qualify." he "I am pleased that I scored because I want Craig Brown the Scotland manager] and the strikers in our senior squad to know I am ready to do a joh

"But scoring in Sweden is an-other reminder from me to

Roy and I'm delighted with

Fifteen players were yesterday named in a Great Britain and Ireland women's squad which will train together in the build-up to next June's defence of the Curtis Cup in Killamey. It Includes five members of the side which kept the trophy after a 9-9 be in Tennessee last year – English and British champion Julie Hall, Mhain McKay, Janice Moodie, Elleen Rose Power and Lisa Watton.

ROSE POWER and LISS Watton.

GREAT BRITAIN AND INELAND WOMEN'S

SQLAD (for Cartis Cap in Killamey in June):
F Brown (Heswall), L Demott (Royal Leepool Ladies), E Duggleby (Mation and Noton), E Fleidis (Falmouth), J Hall (FebstoweFerry), R Housen (Mhachley), I Kwanagh
(Grange), M Mokley (Rumbery), J Moodie

(Mridyfill), I. Nicholson (Haddington), E R

Power (Killamy), K Stateliffe (Sandinay), A

Rose (String), K Stateliffe (Sandinay), C

ice hockey

Pools news

VERNONS DIVIDENDS (for matches played 7 October). Trable chance: 23pts: £253,001.00. 22: £518.25. 21: £50.00. 20: £10.00. 10 homes: £399.15. Five aways: £32.30.

532.30, LITHEWOODS Treble chance: 23pts 5438,923.35.22; £1.984,95.21; £120.75, 20; £23.65.19 £5.35. Four drawn: £30.90, 10 homes: £338.90. Five eways: £15.60, 221 £49.25. 21; £4.65. 20; £0.75. Four draws: £20.00. Bight homes: £15.60, 60ele gaiose: £5.95. Linely numbers: 38 20 22 31 28 12.

Peugeor clinched the two-litre world champtonship in San Remo, Italy after a tense duel with rival French manufacturers Renault yesterday. In the final round of the series for two-wheel drive cars, Peugeot finished 30 points shead thanks to good drives by the Italians Paolo Andreucci and Demitri Brunello Renault lost their chance of warning the championship when Italian Renato Travagi suffered a broken gear-box on the 18th of 24 stages.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Oxford University 4 The Army 1. Rugby Union

Stourbidge, who have reached the third round of the 'Piliongton Cup, have re-cruited Australia's former assistant coach, Glen Ella, as their backs coach. Ella, who worked under the sacked na-tional coach Bob Dwyer and prepared Australia's Hong Kong Sevens squad,

month. The former international will join a coaching panel that includes the for-mer Scotland A prop, Graham Smith. The New Zealand International Zinzar qualified from driving for six months y pleading guilty to assault and dan-ous driving at a Welfington court. CLUB MATCH: Nottingham 18 Loughborough

Speedway PREMIER LEAGUE: Bradford 58 Arena Es-Tennis

John Newcombe, the former Wimble John Newcombe, the former Wimbledon champion, has been told his job
as Australia's Devis Cup captain is safe

– just two weeks after the country were
knocked out of the elite world group for
the first time. Rennis Australia, the sport's
national ruling body, reappointed Newcombe for 1996 end also retained Tony
Roche as Davis Cup coach.

The WTA Tour's two-year search for a sponsor came to an end with the agreement of a deal with Canadian-based computer graphics software maker Corel. The contract will begin with the WTA Tour Championships in New York in November and will include incorporating the software maker's name into rating the software maker's name into the circuit, which will be known as the Corel WTA Tour. The United States-based Kraft Foods ended their sponsorship with the WTA at the end of the 1993 sea-son. The contract includes Corel being part of the nearly 60 tour events in 20 countries, including the four grand

Russia have been fined approximately £15,000 by the International Termis Federation for watering the court before last month's Davis Cup semi-final victory

WOMEN'S PORSCHE GRAND PRIX (Filter-stadt, Ger) First round: A Huber (Ger) bt M Wertlei-Wilmøyer (US) 6-2 6-1. Second round: M Pierre (Fr) bt S Appelmans (Bel)

(FI) 7-5 6-2. The British players Colin Beecher and Barry Cowan both beat seeds yesterday to reach the semi-finals of the UTA Autumn Satisfite Masters at Birmingham. Beecher, the third seed from Kent, beat the American Steve Herdoiza 6-4, 5-7, 6-4 while Cowan, a Lancastrian, upset the second seed, two Heuberger of Switzerland, 3-6, 6-2, 7-5. TA AUTUMN SATELLITE (Birmingham) Mon's singles quarter-finals: C Beecher (GB) ht S Herdotz (US) 6-4-5-7 6-4; B Couen (GB)

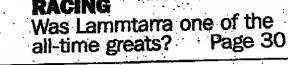
FIRST POST-TRIAL INTERVIEW **ONLY ON**

ON CABLE

RUGBY UNION

Bristol prepare the way for professionalism Page 30 Page 30 **TENNIS**

Life as an also-ran on the satellite circuit Page 30 RACING



Hamilton savours sweet moment

Football

Liechtenstein Northern Ireland

Jimmy Quinn closed in on Northern Ireland's scoring record in his side's European Championship victory stroll at the Eschen/Mauren Sportpark yesterday afternoon.

Quinn, who will be 36 next month, netted one of his country's three second-half goals to move to within one of Colin Clarke's record of 13 goals for the Ulstermen.

Northern Ireland dismissed the part-time Group Six stragglers in a ruthless and professional manner, as their superior technique and fitness became more apparent after the break.

It was satisfying for the man-ager, Bryan Hamilton, to suc-ceed so comprehensively where Jack Charlton's Republic team could do no more than draw. Liechtenstein's already slim

resources were stretched by the absence of first-choice goalkeeper Martin Heeb - their hero against the Republic - and their only full-time professional, Mario Frick - and Northern Ireland made them pay.
Phil Gray missed a simple

chance in the second minute, but Liechtenstem's defensive discipline stayed intact only until the 36th minute. A long Alan Fet-tis clearance was headed on by Gray for Michael O'Neill to strike from close range. After the hreak, Northern

Ireland drove forward relentlessly. The free-kicks of West

pean Under-21 Championship

on 14 November to have any

chance of reaching the quarter-

Austria might not be enough.

in their friendly international.

thanks to a 1-0 win over Austria,

boast a superior goal difference,

and complete their fixtures by en-

Ham's Michael Hughes proved one of their most dangerous weapons, and one of them produced the second goal after 49 minutes. Quinn missed the ball but Tottenham's Gerry McMahon knelt behind him to head

in his first international goal. Quinn put his name on the scoresheet with a 30-yard drive in the 55th minute, after a bad error hy Harry Zech, and Gray crowned a hard-working performance with the fourth when he headed in McMahon's 72ndminute cross.

Fettis, a spectator for most of the match, did well to tip over a curling shot from Franz Schädler in the closing stages.

Liechtenstein may possess one of the most spectacular grounds in world football - but not one of the most impressive European records. They finished their Group Six programme with one point and 40

goals conceded in 10 matches.

Nevertheless, the tiny prin-

cipality, with a population of less than 30,000, has confirmed its entry to the next World Cup and may soon be facing some of global football's most famous teams in their municipal stadium nestling below the Alps. LIECHTENSTEIN: Ochry (Frastard): Hefd (Vadud), C Frick (Balzers), Hild (Eacher) Mau-ren), Haster (Vadud), Klaumzer (Escher) Mau-NORTHERN BRELAND: Fettis (Hull Cnyl; Lo-mas (Marchester Cnyl, Worthington (Leeds Utd), Hill (Leicester Cnyl, Humber (Wresharn), Lesmon (Grewe Alexandra), McMahon (Rotid), Hill (Leicester City), numes annon (Crewe Alexandra), McMalhon (Tot-enham Hotspur), O'Nelli (Hibembar), Quinn Reading), P Gray (Sunderland), Hughno (Messil), Committees used: Wood (Welsel), Man

Despite winning the first set against Todd Martin, Jeremy Bates was yesterday beaten in the second round of the Super Seiko Tournament in Tokyo

Edberg is philosophical in defeat

Tennis

England hopes fade England need to win their final tertaining the Republic of Ireland qualifying match in the Euro- on the same day that England play. It will be a major surprise if Ireland do block their path, although they forced a draw at

Peter Bonetti, the goalkeeping coach to England That was the stark message for Under-21s, said: "The Portheir coach, Dave Sexton, as his squad headed home after Tuestuguese have got themselves in day's 2-2 draw against Norway this position because of their defensive record. They have Portugal, who went one point only conceded one goal in clear in Group Six on Tuesday,

seven games. "We were hoping Austria might pick up a point, but it doesn't look good for us now.

After being beaten by a man who was only five years old when

Stefan Edberg began his career, the Swede yesterday tried to console himself. "At least I'll have seven weeks off at the end of the year, which is the first time since 1982," said Edberg, who 6-2, by Mark Philippoussis, of Australia, in the Super Seiko Tournament in Tokyo.

Edberg, the former world No 1, will have the time off because he has no chance of making the year-ending tournament in Frankfurt, Germany, which pits the world's top eight players against each other. Edberg was philosophical

about his defeat, saying he would soon forget about it. I'm going to have some losses here and there," he said. "I'm going to have my good weeks."
The winner of six Grand

Slam tournaments insists he will retire if he feels he can no longer win one of the majors, but acknowledges that bigger and stronger players make it hard-er all the time. "I used to be one of the hig guys on the Tour. Now I'm somewhere in the middle," said the 6ft 2in Swede.

Philippoussis, 18, who lost to Edberg in the Australian Open in January, said that Edberg was still playing the same delicate serve and volley game, but the problem was that "tennis is getting a lot faster and more

"Maybe today Stefan didn't play as well or I didn't let him into the match," said Philip-poussis, ranked 60th in the world in his first full year on the

"Everybody can play well when you're having a good day," Edberg said. "If you can play well when you're having a bad day, then you're a good

Meanwhile, Britain's Jeremy Bates slumped to a secondround defeat, despite winning the opening set against the sixth seed, Todd Martin. Bates twice broke his American opponent's serve in taking the first set 6-3. But Martin mixed serve and volley with well-placed passing shots to take the match 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Mahanama sets up

Martin will now face Sweden's Henrik Holm, who overcame the No 12 seed, Mark Woodforde, of Australia, 4-6,

6-1, 7-6. Steffi Graf, the Wimbledon champion, is still hoping to compete in next week's Brighton tournament - despite widespread reports that she up she will definitely play, but has withdrawn because of back until we hear from her, there is puble. Graf, who shares the world No 1 ranking with Monica Seles, has been nursing a chronic back complaint for several months, and has not played since winning the US Open carly last month.

But George Hendon, pro-moter of the Brighton event, said yesterday: "Reports that Steffi has withdrawn are completely unfounded. She wants to play because she has always enjoyed the Brighton tournament.

Steffi had a rigorous workout in Germany today and may not decide until tomorrow whether she can play. She is probably waiting to see if their is any reaction after her practice session. If her back holds no point in speculating on the matter," Hendon said yesterday.

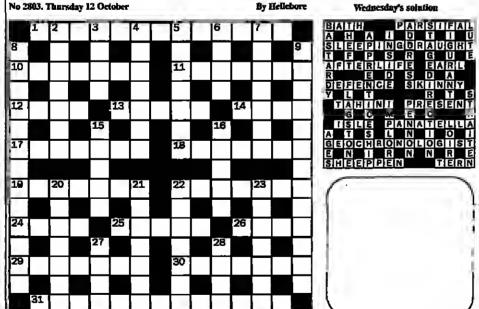
If Graf does drop out, it will he a tremendous blow to the tournament, which is being staged for the 18th and last time this year. The event is without a sponsor and was hoping for big crowds to watch the German player in action.

This year, despite her back problem, she has won three of the four Grand Slam litles - the French Open, Wimbledon and the US Open - and has lost only one match, to the South African Amanda Coetzer, at the Canadian Open in August. But she bounced straight back to win the US Open, beating the newly returned Se-

les in the final. More recently, she has been upset by her father. Peter who is also her manager - being arrested and taken into custody in Germany for allegedly failing to report around £22m of her earnings. Graf herself had to endure lengthy questioning from the German tax authorities last

Results, Sporting Digest,

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



Big. dangerous adder seen in

10 A report about time creates shock (7)

11 Overtaké cop on horseback (5,2) 12 Worry about scripture

13 Put to rest having rendered inert (5) 2 14 Some hi-tech-organs reverberate (4)

17 Rework a spoilt canvas (7) 3 18 The last riot showed sly cunning (7) 4 19 Motivate hadly then employ 5

22 Shipping order's scientific

24 Such a duck would provide 7 a poor meal (4) 25 Crow family? (5)

26 ... Overpower the returning 8 bats (4) this year's fine weather? 29 From whence comes French 9

> again and again (4,5,4) Old-fashioned crew-cut leads

to this sudden emergence of 21 a vein (7) We're not bisons or okapi: 22

we're sung about (4) Sixties first of all (7) value is mass deception (7) 6 A friend for tea? ...(4) ...just the strange one situ-ated near California (7)

ng PLC, 1 Canada Square, Cartary Wharf, Loudon E145DL, and printed at Mirror Colour Print St

home time (5,3,5)

wine - and Perrier for Moggy? (7) 30 Benefit from fashionable 15 the dwarfs? (2,2,3,6) Computer information inlady's sex-appeal (7) 31 Magazine concerning Greek character (5)

part of orchestra (7) Spike's getting to blow it? I'll protect the listener! (7) 23 Temp is elected - displaying exceptional merit (7) Lord in a cycling number? (7)

Triumph Spittire, ultimate 27 Sounds like top dog (4)

cult car, epitomises Swinging 28 The Derby, perhaps, but not

See the striker wait for going-Like very modern Snow

volves inversion of bit and 16 Time for European member to be put to the test (5) 20 I'm apt to play in elevated

Inferior team to go down (7) this (4)

Sri Lankan success **Cricket** West Indies finished on 228 for 9 from their 50 overs. Richardson, who hit three Roshan Mahanama's fourth fours and two sixes in his 67, ad-

century in limited overs inernationals helped Sri Lanka to a rare victory over West Indies yesterday. Batting with a runner during the second part of his innings after pulling a leg muscle, Mahanama made 101 of Sri Lanka's 234 for 7 in the opening match of the Champions' Trophy tournament.

West Indies appeared to be on target for their 17th win in 20 one-day matches against Sri Lanka when they reached 192 for 3 from 44 overs, the opencr Sherwin Campbell having led the way with 86 - his highest one-day score. But Sanath Jaya-suriya, the left-arm spinner, claimed the wickets of Richie Richardson and Roger Harper in the 45th over to tilt the match in Sri Lanka's favour.

mitted afterwards that his side had been outplayed in every de-partment. "The better team won on the day," he said. "It is as simple as that." The run-out of Brian Lara for

19 at the bowler's end was crucial to Sri Lanka's success. Andy Roberts, the West Indies manager, thought Jayasuriya dropped the ball before removing the bails, but Lara was given out by the third umpire, Nigel Plews, af-ter he had taken some time to study television replays. Sri Lanka's innings was huilt

around a fourth-wicket stand of 126 in 116 balls between Mahanama and Arjuma Ranatun-ga, who made 58. Mahanama's 101 from 152 balls was his first one-day century against West

tha ¢ Hesper b Skimmons. *A Rammunge c Browne b Gibso tR Kaluwitherne run out

Fait: 1-82-593-84 4-210 5-222 6-228 7-232 Bowling: Bishop 10-1-42-3; Gibeon 10-1-40-1 Arthory 8-0-49-0; Simmons 8-1-23-1; Harp or 10-0-49-0; Chanderpaul 4-0-18-1.

Total (for 8, 50 overs) _______22 Pall: 1-13 2-69 3-165 4-192 5-194 6-213 7-21, 8-218 9-226.

Richards suspension threat

Rugby Union

Dean Richards, England's No 8, will find out tonight whether he is to he the first player to be banned under the new tottingup procedure for yellow cards.

Richards, Leicester's cap-tain, will be defended by his club when he appears before the Leicestershire disciplinary committee at Welford Road after receiving yellow cards in successive matches last month. The regulations mean that a player warned twice is treated as having been sent off.

Richards could be suspended and miss the Test against

South Africa next month unless he can persuade the panel to treat him leniently.

Tony Russ, Leicester's direc-tor of coaching, said: "We are contesting this case vigorously. First of all, he was not sent off in either match. We are all in unknown territory.

Alan Wells, Leicestershire's secretary, who will oversee pro-ceedings, said: "This is a test case and we will be establishing a precedent, so we need to be very judicious in our verdict."

The publicity before and certainly after Richards' case if he is suspended will act as a severe warning to thousands of players in England,

Richards' Leicester colleague Martin Johnson has also been given a yellow card and cannot afford another caution until next April.

The system is in contrast to football, where a player who repeatedly misbehaves can get away with half-a-dozen threepoint bookings and still not be the subject of a disciplinary inquiry.

Richards was spotted by a touch indge using clumsy footwork at a ruck in the home match against Bath on 23 September and at Gloucester a week later another touchjudge alleged that he punched an opponent. Bristol fight the poachers,

page 30

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